

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 903.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18, 1863.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.
STAMPED 1d.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE

LECTURE-HALL, BROMLEY-BY-BOW,

Will be held on MONDAY EVENING, February 23rd, 1863, when

Addresses will be delivered by

GEORGE CRUIKSHANK, Esq.;

The Rev. HUGH ALLEN, D.D.,

Rector of St. George the Martyr, Southwark;

The Rev. B. W. BUCKE, M.A.,

Preacher at Magdalene Hospital;

The Rev. J. H. RYLANC, A.M.C.,
Deputation from the Working Men's Club and Institute
Union;

The Rev. C. J. MIDDLEDITCH;

The Rev. J. SELLA MARTIN,
Late of Boston, Massachusetts;

The Rev. JOSEPH WALLIS, M.A.,

and

T. E. HELLER, Esq.,

Deputation from the Metropolitan Association for promoting
the Education of Adults;

HARRY CHESTER, Esq.,

Deputation from the Society of Arts;

JOHN NOBLE, Esq., J.P.;

R. WILKINSON, Esq., Totteridge-park;

and other Gentlemen.

The Chair will be taken at half-past Six o'clock, by
The Right Hon. Lord TEYNHAM.

Admission Free by Ticket.

~~BY~~ Trains from Fenchurch-street and all Stations on the
North London and Blackwall Railways, to Bow, every
quarter-of-an-hour.

LONDON BIBLE and DOMESTIC FEMALE MISSIONS.

The Right Honourable Lord TEYNHAM will PREACH
TWO SERMONS in the LECTURE-HALL, BROMLEY-BY-BOW, on SUNDAY NEXT, February 23rd, in aid of the above
Missions.

Service to commence at Eleven in the Morning, and half-past
Six in the Evening.

CONTRIBUTIONS will be gratefully received for the Bromley
district by Mrs. Harper Twelves, Superintendent, or by the
Right Honourable Arthur Kinnaird, M.P., Treasurer.

THE ASYLUM for FATHERLESS CHILDREN.

Reedham, near Croydon (late at Stamford-hill).

Under the Patronage of Her Majesty the QUEEN.

Instituted 1844.

The ANNIVERSARY DINNER will be held at the
LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, on WEDNES-
DAY, the 23rd Inst.

Sir FRANCIS H. GOLDSMID, Bart., M.P., has kindly
consented to preside on the occasion.

STEWARDS :

Sir FRANK CROSSLEY, Bart., M.P.
Sir JAMES DUKE, Bart., M.P., Alderman.
Sir S. MORTON PETO, Bart., M.P.
DAVID SALOMON, M.P., Alderman.

Aveling, Rev. T. W.
Andrewes, C. J. Esq.
Bidmead, J. T. Esq.
Black, John, Esq.
Bower, A. T. Esq.
Brodie, John, Esq.
Budd, Edward, Esq.
Clarke, F., Esq.
Easton, Charles, Esq.
Frank, John, Esq.
Fraser, Alexander, Esq.
Harvey, Henry, Esq.
Hubback, Thomas, Esq.
Hughes, Henry, Esq.

THOS. W. AVELING, Hon. Sec.

N.B. Subscriptions are earnestly solicited. All communica-
tions should be addressed to Mr. Geo. Stanclif, Secretary, at
the office, No. 10, Poultry, E.C.

THE ASYLUM for FATHERLESS CHILDREN.

Reedham, near Croydon (late at Stamford-hill).

The munificent offer of John Crossley, Esq., to give 500
guineas, in ten annual payments, providing the whole debt
upon the building should thus be taken up, has been most
generously supported by Sir S. M. Peto, Bart., M.P., S.
Morley, Esq., Messrs. Jupe and Son, and others, to the amount
of nearly 4,000*l.* 1,700*l.* of this has been paid, and the debt
reduced that sum.

Another friend, who conceals his name, has offered 500
guineas, on the condition of 2,000 additional being raised on
or before the Anniversary Dinner, on the 23rd inst.: to this
1,300 guineas have already been promised. The Board most
anxiously solicit the benevolent public to secure this noble
gift to the Charity.

THOS. W. AVELING, Hon. Sec.

HACKNEY THEOLOGICAL SEMI- NARY, and SOCIETY for the PROPAGATION of the GOSPEL.

The Rev. J. E. RICHARDS, Secretary of the above Society,
requests that all LETTERS addressed to him may be directed
to 4, St. Peter's-square, Hammersmith, W.

THE

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LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18, 1863.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.
STAMPED 1d.

POLYTECHNIC.—The Optical Pan-
tomime of "Harlequin and Cinderella, and The Little
Glass Slipper." The Story is orally and musically told
by George Buckland, Esq., and the whole of the optical re-
sources of the Institution are used to give effect to the Fairy
Transformations. New Philosophical Entertainment, by
Professor J. H. Pepper, entitled, "A Strange Lecture," in
which the "Photodromes," by Mr. Rose, of Glasgow, and an
illustration of Mr. Charles Dickens's "Haunted Man" (being
an optical illusion devised by Mr. Diroka), will be introduced.
Ventriloquism, by Mr. Devon. Mr. King's Lectures.

WANTED, a SITUATION as GOVERNESS
in a Public School in London. Good References given.
Address, H. F., 2, Chapter-terrace, St. Paul's-road, Walworth.

GOVERNESS (NURSERY).—WANTED im-
mediately, by a YOUNG LADY, accustomed to the
management and care of Young Children, a SITUATION as
NURSERY GOVERNESS. She is fully competent to impart
a sound English education, with Music and Singing. Excellent
references given.

Address, A. B., P.O., Market Harborough.

**A COMPANION to a LADY, or
TEACHER in a FAMILY or SCHOOL.**

A LADY, aged Thirty-three, is anxious to meet with an
ENGAGEMENT for three months. She has been long accustomed
to teaching both boys and girls; is very fond of children,
and of a sociable disposition.

Address, E. B., Mr. Ford's, 6, Albert-terrace, Bishop's-road,
Bayswater, W.

TO CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED,
a good ASSISTANT, for a First-Class Business, well
accustomed to Dispensing. One of thoroughly religious
principles, and who wishes to pass the Pharmaceutical
Examinations, will find a comfortable home. The highest
References required.

Address, stating age, salary, &c., M. P. S., 65, Vine-street,
Abercromby-square, Liverpool.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—WANTED
immediately, a Respectable YOUNG MAN who
thoroughly understands his business and is a good Window
Dresser.

Apply to Mr. J. S. Osborne, Clapham.

TO DRAPERS.—A Christian YOUNG
MAN, who is about to Dissolve Partnership, wishes an
ENGAGEMENT as MANAGER. Branch Concern preferred.

Address, "Alpha," Post-office, Cowbridge, Glamorgan.

**TO GROCERS' and DRAPERS' AS-
SISTANTS.**—WANTED, a YOUNG MAN, by the 20th
of March. Salary, 20*l.*

Address, H. Vinson, Southminster, Essex.

TO IRONMONGERS.—WANTED TO
APPRENTICE a YOUTH, Fifteen years of age, to the
IRONMONGERY BUSINESS. A small premium not ob-
jected to. A Dissenter preferred.

Address, Mr. Freeman, Stratford-green, E.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—BRAD-
SHAW and SANSON, IRON-FOUNDERS, Mansfield,
Notts, have an OPENING in their OFFICE for ONE or
TWO YOUNG MEN, who would have an opportunity to
learn the several branches of their Business under the
constant Superintendence of the Principals. Terms may be
known on application per letter. References given and re-
quired. Christian Young Men preferred.

WANTED, in the First Week of March,
a GENERAL SERVANT in a quiet Christian
Family. A member of a Nonconformist church preferred.
Wages from 8*l.* to 10*l.*

Address, W. M., 7, Northumberland-grove, Tottenham.

A FIRST-FLOOR, WELL FURNISHED,
TO BE LET, in the highest part of Islington. Rooms
large and lofty, stone staircase, the locality healthy, terms
moderate, and comfort studied.

Address, H. C., 25, Upper Barnsbury-street, Islington.

**UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.**

The NEXT EXAMINATIONS will COMMENCE on
MONDAY, December 14, 1863.

All necessary information may be obtained from the
Rev. C. GRAY, Trinity College, Cambridge
(Hon. Sec. to the Syndicate for conducting the
Examinations).

SYDENHAM HOUSE SCHOOL, ROC-

FORD, ESSEX.

PRINCIPAL—Mr. GEORGE FOSTER.

Terms, 24*l.* per annum, inclusive.

PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT at Forest-hill, Syden-
ham, conducted by Misses E. and F. SOUTHGATE.

PARENTS who require for their SONS a
SOUND, COMMERCIAL EDUCATION, with or without
French, Piano, and Latin, are respectfully requested to
apply to Mr. GEO. VERNEY, of CRANFORD HALL
SCHOOL, near Hounslow, Middlesex. The premises are first-
class. Food and conveniences of the best description. Terms
moderate. References in town and country.

The SCHOOL RESUMED JANUARY 20, 1863.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, HAVER- STOCK-HILL.

SIXTY CHILDREN will be ADMITTED into the School
in 1863. Forms to fill up may be obtained at the Office of the
Charity.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

22, Ludgate-hill, E.C., London.

COALS. 24*s.*, Best Coals.—E. & W. STURGE,
Bridge Wharf, City-road, E.C.
Seconds 23*s.* | Silkstone 20*s.*
Other descriptions supplied.

COALS.—Best Sunderland, 23*s.*; Newcastle
or Hartlepool, 22*s.*; best Silkstone, 21*s.*; Clay Cross,
20*s.*; Coke, per chaldron, 14*s.*

B. HIBBERDINE, Sussex and Union Wharfs, Regent's-
park; Chief Offices: 109 and 266, Tottenham-court-road.

COALS.—Best Coals only. GEO. J.
COCKERELL and Co.'s price is now 24*s.* per ton cash
for the BEST SCREENED COALS, as supplied by them to
her Majesty—13, Cornhill, E.C.; Purfleet-wharf, Earl-street,
Blackfriars, E.C.; Eaton-wharf, Belgrave-place, Pimlico,
S.W.; and Sunderland-wharf, Peckham, S.E.

COALS.—By SCREW STEAMERS, and
RAILWAY.—HIGHBURY and KINGSLAND COAL
DEPOTS.—No Travellers or Agents employed.—LEA and
DOVE'S Price for HETTON, HARWELL, and LAMPTON
WALLSEND, the best House Coal in the world direct from
the Collieries by screw steamers, is 23*s.* per ton: Hartlepool, 22*s.*; Tanfield, for Smith's, 18*s.*; best small,
12*s.*. Inland, by Railway:—Silkstone, first class, 21*s.*; second class, 20*s.*; Clay Cross, 21*s.* and 18*s.*; Barnsley, 17*s.*; Hartley, 16*s.* 4*d.* Coke, 14*s.* Net cash. Delivered, screened,
to any part of London. All orders direct to LEA and
DOVE'S, Chief Offices, North London Railway Stations, High-
bury, Islington, or Kingsland.

PIANO FORTEs for HIRE.— CARRIAGE FREE.

Option of Purchase, Every Description and Price.

PEACHEY'S

CITY OF LONDON MANUFACTORY,
AND EXTENSIVE SHOW-ROOMS,
73, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, E.C.,
opposite the Marine Society.

An extensive assortment of New and Second-hand
PIANOFORTEs WARRANTED.

HARMONIUMS FOR SALE OR HIRE.

* * * New Grand Pianofortes for HIRE, for Concerts, Lectures, &c.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1862, Class 16. Prize
Medal Awarded for "Excellence of Workmanship."

C. CADBY, of GRAY'S INN PATENT
PIANOFORTE and HARMONIUM MANUFAC-
TORIES, Liquorpond-street, London, offers his sincere thanks
to the Nobility, Gentry, and Public generally of Dublin, and
other parts of Ireland, for the liberal patronage bestowed on
him during the last twenty years, as a Pianoforte Manu-
facturer, and begs to state, that having been assigned a First-
Class Prize for their excellence, he is encouraged to maintain
his increased reputation by renewed exertions in not only
selecting the most skilled workmen and material for their
construction, but also in a constant and personal supervision
of the same.

C. CADBY has just completed some beautiful Gothic
Library Cottage Pianofortes, in oak, at prices from Forty to
Fifty Guineas each, and which are eminently suited to the
wants of students and clergymen. Specimens of these, and
also of his Concert Grand, Bi-chord, Semi-Grand, and the
almost endless variety of his Cottage Pianofortes, may be seen
at the principal Music Warehouses throughout the kingdom.

N.B.—For a description of C. CADBY'S Pianofortes and
Harmonium Manufactories, see page 241 of the Illustrated
Times," published 9th August, 1862.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY VERSUS COGNAC BRANDY.

This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY rivals the finest French
brandy. It is pure, mild, mellow delicious, and very wholesome.
Sold in bottles, 3*s.* 8*d.* each, at most of the respectable
retail houses in London; by the appointed agents in the
principal towns in England; or wholesale at 5, Great Wind-
mill-street, Haymarket, W. Observe the red seal, pink label,
and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

MARSHALL'S HUNGARIAN EAU-DE- VIE.

HARPER TWELVETREES'
WASHING MACHINE for the
MILLION,
PROTECTED BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL

LETTERS PATENT.
Can be worked by a child, and will wash as many clothes in a few hours, especially if used with "HARPER TWELVETREES' SOAP POWDER," as a woman can wash in two days by the old method of hand-rubbing, besides doing the work better, with half the soap, water, and fuel. All who have tried it admit that it is the cleanest, most simple, speedy, effective, and economical Machine ever invented. As a CHURN for making BUTTER it is remarkably effective, and worthy the attention of DAIRY-KEEPERS.

Hundreds of these Machines are now in constant use throughout the kingdom.

Directions for use are forwarded with each Machine; and purchasers may feel assured that attention to the instructions will secure perfect satisfaction.

READ WHAT OTHER PEOPLE SAY:—
From the Rev. JAMES BURNS, D.D., of Paddington. Author of "Christian Philo-ophy," "Sketches and Skeletons of Sermons," "Pulpit Cyclopaedia," "Light for the Sick Room," and numerous other valuable theological works.

"Your Washing Machine has been fairly tried in our family, and by its use a month's washing is got through in five hours and a-half and the clothes are much more thoroughly cleansed than by the old system, which involved the labour and inconvenience of twelve or thirte- hours for three weeks' washing. I trust this invention of yours will produce a domestic reformation through the length and breadth of the land."—April, 1-62.

From Commander JAMES STUART, R.N., Stratford, Essex.

"Dear Sir,—Your 'Washing Machine' is quite a success. It accomplishes all it professes to do, and is a great boon to households.—Jan. 27, 1862."

From the Rev. J. MAKEPEACE, Union Chapel, Luton.

"I have to acknowledge the safe arrival of the 'Washing Machine.' It was tried yesterday, and the results are briefly these:—1. The saving of soap is about one-half. 2. Instead of washing every fortnight, we need wash only, once in three weeks, thus saving the difference in the woman's wages and the cost of firing, besides rendering us of the nuisance of frequent washings. 3. The linen 'looks beautiful,' having a better colour than by the old process. Moreover, there was no boiling, nor did anything require rubbing, except the feet of stockings.—Jan. 15, 1862."

From Mrs. DAY, Carlisle-Terrace, Bow, Middlesex.

"Your 'Washing Machine' answers admirably. It does wonders. I have been able to accomplish a month's wash in three hours. The Machine is even more than you represent it to be. For the last three washes I have done the sheets, pillow-cases, table linen, toilet covers, &c., without previously soaking them, and they have been perfectly clean and stainless. I am satisfied that your machine only requires to be known and it will be fully appreciated.—April 28, 1862."

Copy of a letter forwarded to a lady residing near Andover, by a previous purchaser.

"Feb. 19, 1862.—Madam.—The 'Washing Machine' advertised by Harper Twelvetrees answers so well that my wife says she 'would on no account part from it.' I had inspected several washing machines of various makers, but did not approve of any of them. The sight of Mr. Twelvetrees' machine convinced me that it was the article that has long been required, and I am perfectly satisfied with the work it accomplishes. The washerwomen are somewhat alarmed at the innovation. You must, therefore, be certain when you try the machine that it gets fair play. This fact alone is a high commendation of the machine.—I am, madam, &c., &c.

From JOHN KELLY, Esq., C.E., Roscommon.

"Having used the 'Washing Machine' for several weeks, I am pleased to inform you that it turned out several batches of clothes in a few minutes, and as perfectly clean that the bystanders were astonished. I think it is beyond the reach of human ingenuity to devise a cheaper, more simple, and efficient domestic machine."

From Mr. W. H. COULTAS, grocer, Minchinhampton.

"I received the 'Washing Machine' safely, and we used it yesterday. It does its work well, and is all you represent it to be.—Jan. 28, 1862."

From Mrs. JACKSON, Warwick Hall, Aspatria.

"I have fairly tested the ability of your 'Washing Machine,' and am glad to find we get through the washing much quicker and easier than by the old plan. The laundress at first was certain that no plan could equal her own, but is now a convert to your process.—Feb. 22, 1862."

From Mr. G. GILES, 12, Sidney-place, Commercial-road East, London, E.

"We have used the 'Washing Machine' twice, and consider it a first-rate article. There is scarcely any trouble with it, as you may believe when I tell you that our washing commenced at eight o'clock, and was over by ten. What with the saving of time, labour, soap, and fuel, my wife says that our wash was done at about one-third of what it has usually cost us.—Feb. 23, 1862."

From Mr. F. P. HUBBARD, Chemist, Walsall.

"Our washerwoman used the 'Washing Machine' last week. We find that the washing is done much more expeditiously, and with much less labour, than formerly; also that there is a great saving in time, labour, fuel, &c., and that the clothes come out of the wash a much better colour than by the old process.—Feb. 18, 1862."

From Mrs. MILLS, Smarden, Kent.

"To-day I have been superintending assisting in the first operations of the 'Washing Machine.' We have succeeded capitally. It does its work well, and so far I pronounce it excellent, and a great acquisition to the list of household utensils. I can testify most satisfactorily as to the saving of time, labour, soap, and fuel. We had a heavy five weeks' wash for five of us, with sheets, table linen, shop aprons, towels, &c. All were put in soak yesterday afternoon, and all was finished by half-past three. I have usually had two women one day, and one woman the second.—Feb. 20, 1862."

£ s. d.
No. 1 is very small, and only adapted for Nursery Use, or as a Churn for a small Dairy.. . . 1 1 0
No. 2 is a usual size for a small Family's Washing . . . 2 0 0
No. 3, ordinary size for a Family 2 10 0
No. 4, for Hotels, Schools, Public Institutions, Prisons, and Army Laundries.. 3 10 0
FRAMES on which to rock the Machines may be had at 5s. required.

EVERY HOUSEKEEPER IN THE KINGDOM SHOULD USE

HARPER TWELVETREES' SOAP POWDER, for Cheap, Easy, and Expedient Washing. It supersedes Soap and Soda, and contains neither lime, potash, ammonia, nor any of the injurious ingredients of which numerous imitations and counterfeits are compounded; but it is perfectly harmless to the hands, as well as to the most delicate fabric. Instead of impoverishing the material, like the destructive articles which are attempted to be palmed off as imitations, HARPER TWELVETREES' Soap Powder STRENGTHENS and IMPROVES the FABRIC, as may be proved by examination under the lens of a microscope. Sold 1s. 1d. Packets everywhere.

USE ALSO

BRIGGS' AUSTRALIAN SATIN-GLAZE STARCH. Its valuable and economical properties recommend it as the really Perfect Starch. One Pound is equal to nearly Two Pounds of any other, and, as the iron cannot possibly stick, every description of fine work can be ironed without fear of tearing.

A complete list of Harper Twelvetrees' Domestic Articles may be obtained at the Shops where Harper Twelvetrees' Soap Powder or Washing Machines are sold; or at the MANUFACTORY, BROMLEY-BY-BOW, LONDON, E.

THE NONCONFORMIST.

COLMAN'S GENUINE MUSTARD

TRADE MARK,

On each

THE BULL'S HEAD,
Package.

The Jurors of the International Exhibition, 1862, have—after a careful examination, chemically and microscopically, as well as by the test of flavour—awarded to J. & J. COLMAN

THE ONLY PRIZE MEDAL FOR MUSTARD,

For "Purity and Excellence of Quality."

RETAILLED BY ALL GROCERS, &c. WHOLESALE OF THE MANUFACTURERS,

J. & J. COLMAN, 26, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

PRIZE MEDAL, 1862.—Awarded by the Jurors of Class 2, for the GLENFIELD STARCH, being a confirmation by some of the most eminent scientific men of the age of the superior qualities of this.

WORLD RENOWNED STARCH.

Wooterspoon and 10c., Glasgow and London.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1862.

The Jurors of Class 2 have awarded a

PRIZE MEDAL

For the superiority of the

GLENFIELD STARCH.

COMFORT TO THE FEET

PANNUS CORIUM BOOTS and SHOES are the most easy ever invented. Softness and elasticity, combined with the durability and appearance of leather, are their leading qualities. Those who suffer from any tenderness of the feet will, on trial, admit the great superiority over every other kind.

Merchants and the trade supplied with the Pannus Corium. HALL and Co., SOLE PATENTEES, 6, Wellington-street, Strand.

TEETH!



TEETH!

OSTEO EIDON.

Patent, March 1, 1862. No. 560.

GABRIEL'S self-adhesive patent indestructible MINERAL TEETH and FLEXIBLE GUMS, without palates, springs, or wires, and without operation. One set lasts a lifetime, and warranted for mastication or articulation. Purest material only, at half the usual cost.

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THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS

(Diploma, 1815).

27, HARLEY-STREET, CAVENISH-SQUARE;
34, LUDGATE-HILL, LONDON;
154, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL; and
65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

Consultations gratis. For an explanation of their various improvements, opinions of the press, testimonials, &c., see "Gabriel's Practical Treatise on the Teeth." Post free on application.

Entrance to the City Establishment, over Benson's, the Silversmith's.

* One visit only required from Country Patients

ARTIFICIAL TEETH and PAINLESS

DENTISTRY.—Messrs. MOSELY, DENTISTS, 30, Berners-street, London. Established 1820. Messrs. Mosely, Dentists beg to direct attention to a New and Patented improvement in the manufacture of Artificial Teeth, Palates, &c., which supersedes all Metals, and soft or absorbing agents, hitherto the fruitful cause of so many evils to the mouth and gums. A portion of this great improvement consists of a gum-coloured enamelled base for the Artificial Teeth, which presents a uniformly-smooth and highly-polished surface, preventing any lodgment of food between interteeth, thus avoiding the consequent unpleasant secretions, causing foulness of breath, &c. Additional Teeth can be added when required (thus saving great expense to the Patients), without extracting roots or fangs, and as the whole is moulded in a soft state, all inequalities of the gums or roots of teeth are carefully protected, and insure a perfect system of Painless Dentistry. Neither metals, wires, or unsightly ligatures are required, but perfect complete adhesion secured by Mr. MOSELY'S PATENTED SUCTION PALATE, NO. 764, Aug. 1855. Decayed and tender Teeth permanently restored to use, preventing the necessity of extraction. Consultation and every information free. Success guaranteed in all cases by Messrs. Mosely, 30, Berners-street, Oxford-street, W.

Single Teeth, from 5s. Sets from Five Guinea.

RIMMEL'S NOVELTIES for the SEASON.

The Alexandra, Prince of Wales, and Royal Bridal Bouquet, 2s. 6d. each, or the three in a neat box, 7s. 6d. The Capoletto Fan, delightfully perfumed, from 3s. 6d. The Turkish Scented Charm, an elegant golden ornament for the watch chain, 1s., sent by post for thirteen stamps. Rimmel's Perfumed Almanack, richly illustrated, 6d., by post for seven stamps. Sold by all the trade.

E. Rimmel, Perfumer, 98, Strand; and 24, Cornhill.

SAFE and EASY WAY to GET

MONEY.—Place your Savings in the ALLIANCE NATIONAL LAND, BUILDING, and INVESTMENT SOCIETY. They will thus accumulate at compound interest, and every investment double itself in fourteen years.

HARPER TWELVETREES, Chairman.

JOHN NOBLE, Jun., Secretary.

11, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS'

WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE."

Is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

* Sold Wholesale and for Export, by the Proprietors, Worcester; Mears, Chorlton and BLACKWELL; Mears, Barclay and Sons, London, &c., 6d., and by Grocers and Olimps universally.

SOLE AGENTS IN LONDON, PROUT, 229, STRAND.

Entered at Stationers' Hall.

TRADE MARK, 1862.

On each

THE BULL'S HEAD,
Package.

TRADE MARK
W.P.
MARK.
BROWN AND POLSON'S
PATENT CORN FLOUR.
In Packets, 8d.; and Tins, 1s.

To FAMILIES.—Cheap qualities are often charged extra price, and substituted or recommended for Brown and Polson's. Fraud would be discouraged by all other kinds being returned which are sent instead of the best.

RECIPE FOR INFANTS' FOOD.—To one dessert-spoonful of Brown and Polson; mixed with a wine-glassful of cold water and a grain of salt, add half a pint of boiling water; stir over the fire for five minutes; sweeten to taste; if the infant is being brought up by the hand, this food should then be mixed with milk—not otherwise, as the use of the two different milks would be injurious.

PROTECTION from FIRE.

BRYANT AND MAY'S
PATENT
SPECIAL SAFETY MATCHES,
WAX VESTAS,
AND VESUVIANS.
IGNITE ONLY ON THE BOX.
SOLD EVERYWHERE.
FAIRFIELD WORKS, BOW, LONDON.

HORNIMAN'S PURETEA, SOLD
in PACKETS by 2,280 AGENTS.
The Chief Commissioner of the Sanitary Report visited the Docks to inspect the PURE TEA imported by HORNIMAN and CO., LONDON, from having on investigation found that many tea in general use are covered by the Chinese with an objectionable powdery red colour, which is drunk when the tea is made. Horniman's Tea being imported uncoloured, the Chinese cannot pass off Brown flavourless sorts; consequently, this Pure Tea is strong, delicious, and wholesome. Price 3s. 8d., 4s., and 4s. 6d. per lb.

QUININE.—The MEDICAL PROFESSION.—The LANCET.—Dr. Hassall and others recommend "Water's Quinine Wine" as an excellent and simple stimulant. Manufactured only by HUBERT WATER'S, 2, Martin-lane, Cannon-street, London, E.C. Sold by Grocers, Italian Warehousemen, and others, at 3s. a dozen.

Wholesale Agents—E. Lewis and Co., Worcester.
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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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year, are subjected to the process, to be blamed, because year after year they demand to be freed from it, and why are they who need not pay it in force, but who do, to be spoken of with compassion? "Hold your noise," says the *Times* to the man who is being fleeced, "for it is anything but musical in our ears." Probably! But we venture to remark that the community which tolerates this annual nuisance can hardly expect to have it perpetrated in quiet. To be tyrannical in the name of Christianity and the poor, and to cast upon others liabilities which they have never incurred, is a social injustice which cannot be indulged in without some qualifying inconvenience—and the inconvenience in this case is that Sir John Trelawny will not allow the aggressors to enjoy their sport in quiet.

"A man," says the *Times*, "ought either to do a thing, or not to do it. When he finds he cannot, it is high time he should desist from attempts which only disturb and annoy. Take the case of a quiet Churchman, living at peace with his neighbours, in a town parish, not only disposed, but deeply interested to get on well with all about him. Nobody in a town is so independent as to care nothing for offending half the parish. He has a profession, or a business, or some employment, which is a public hostage for his good behaviour. The Church-rates are disputed, a vestry is called, and a poll demanded. In general that man would rather pay his own rate ten times over than offend either the clergyman and his friends by voting against the rate, or the Dissenters for voting for it. So our neighbour is in a sad fix and does not know how to vote." The high standard of social and political morality raised by the foregoing passage is worthy of the *Times*. So, when a man feels that he is too weak to give effect to his principles, he is to find a place for them in his lumber-room. If the Parliamentary Reformers of the earlier part of the present century, the anti-slavery leaders, such as Clarkson, Wilberforce and Buxton, the exponents of Free Trade, General Thompson, Richard Cobden, John Bright, and Charles Villiers, had but framed their plans and conduct on this hypothesis, their country, no doubt, to say nothing of themselves, would have occupied a very different from its present position—whether a higher one or not, it is for the *Times* to pronounce.

"Sir John Trelawny," says the *Times*, "is one of those chiefs who care more for their cause than for their armies." "For the highly prospective and problematical hope of abolishing Church-rates, he drags us all through the dirt every year, and inflicts untold personal annoyances." Sir John is, of course, held responsible for putting many of his fellow-members in the very disagreeable position of being obliged to vote in the lobby in conformity with the pledge given at the hustings. We dare say he would very gladly be honourably relieved of the duty. But, before snubbing him for his perseverance, would it not be fair to remember that he is not the aggressor? It is not he that keeps up the Church-rate controversy. The "young English incumbent," who, "disagreeable as the process is, feels that he cannot omit it without disloyalty to his Church, his creed, and his social position," and who, in consequence, wins the sympathy and respect of the *Times*, is far more truly chargeable with trying the patience of the public by insisting on a Church-rate, than the hon. member for Tavistock in endeavouring to wrest the invidious power out of his hands. The truth is that a course of injustice is always followed by annoyance. Does the *Times* hope to make things pleasant for the evil-doers? Does it really believe that men who will make their neighbours share the expense of their religious worship, mend the roof, clean the pews, warm, light, and decorate the area of, the edifice in which they perform their social devotions, and who are guilty of the incredible meanness of pretending that the saving of their own pockets, and the pleasure of asserting a legal superiority over fellow-parishioners who choose to worship elsewhere, is a benefit done to the poor, are entitled to enjoy the luxury of vexing and harassing others without incurring any inconvenience? Why are Dissenters who, year after

to fix blame upon the protestation which it naturally excites, to find an excuse for the one, and vehemently to denounce the other as gratuitously troublesome and offensive, is just of a piece with the morality of the *Times* and of that ecclesiastical system which it usually sanctions.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

Some of the best friends of the Church give, to say the least, a very hesitating approval to the proceedings of Convocation in the matter of Bishop Colenso's book. Some condemn them altogether, and nowhere, excepting in High-Church circles, do we find an expression of unqualified approval. All parties unite in condemnation of the work: the question is, whether it is expedient for Convocation to condemn it? This is a much more delicate question than it may generally be supposed to be. To understand its importance it is necessary to refer to the proceedings of this body in the years 1711 and 1717, when Mr. Whiston's book and Bishop Hoadley's sermon were brought under review.

Whiston, like Bishop Colenso, was a Cambridge man, and oddly enough, was professor of Mathematics at Cambridge, having succeeded Sir Isaac Newton in that office. While occupying this post he published a work entitled, "An Historical Preface to Primitive Christianity revived." On March 19th, 1711, the Lower House of Convocation opened proceedings with reference to this work by praying the opinion of the Upper House, as to the best manner of proceeding against it. The Upper House agreed that something ought to be done, and resolved to ask Archbishop Tenison's advice in the matter. Tenison in reply advised them to submit the case to the judges of the realm. This was done, and eight out of twelve judges, with the attorney and solicitor-general, gave an elaborate opinion in favour of the jurisdiction of Convocation to "examine, censure and condemn heretical books and persons," subject to a writ of prohibition from the Crown and "with a reserve of an entire freedom of altering their opinions" in case further information should lead them to do so. This opinion allowing only a conditional jurisdiction, and the four other judges pronouncing against jurisdiction altogether, Convocation virtually dropped the matter. They censured certain propositions in Whiston's book; but the Queen declined to ratify their decisions. All their work therefore went for nothing. Whiston himself, after refusing a bishopric, left the Church, became a Baptist, and employed himself in the translation of "Josephus." Convocation, therefore, had succeeded in doing no manner of harm to him.

The facts in Bishop Hoadley's case are almost too notorious to need recapitulation. His offence (not his first, for he had been censured in 1705) consisted in preaching, in his sermon "On the Nature of the Kingdom or Church of Christ" certain matters considered to be inconsistent with the tenet of the Royal supremacy. This magnificent testimony against the assumptions of the civil power in the Church of Christ, drove Convocation to the verge of madness. The Lower House declaimed against it as an invasion of the regal supremacy and of the authority of the Legislature to enforce obedience in matters of religion by civil sanctions. In a lengthy petition to the Upper House they set forth all the obnoxious passages in this sermon, and begged their Lordships to take action. They also proclaimed their intention of dealing with other works in the same manner. Their petition was presented, and—both Houses were at once dissolved by the Crown, not to meet again for a hundred and forty years.

Here, then, are the precedents for the action taken in the matter of Bishop Colenso's work. It is worth noticing that in this, as in the previous cases, the initiative is taken by the Lower House. Their Lordships stand quietly by, and allow the ardent Arch-

deacon and his friends to pull the chestnuts out of the fire. The higher section of the newspaper press condemn the whole proceeding. The *Daily News* stigmatizes it as an imitation of the Index Expurgatorius, and even the *Morning Post* calls, not for condemnation, but for reply. We cannot think, however, that with such men on the examining committee as Deans Stanley, Goodwin, and Trench, with Professors Harold Browne and Selwyn, Convocation will disgrace itself by its manner of condemnation. It is a pity, however, that gentlemen and scholars can mix themselves up in any way with a proceeding which is intolerant in its nature, and must be a sham in its results.

One would have thought that the Church was already disquieted enough, but there are always those who are ready to heap fuel upon even the too-fast-burning fire. So we have seen an excited spectator at a conflagration where churches and houses were being consumed by the flames, throwing everything in his way into the fiery mass. Under some such feeling as this must Dr. Pusey and his two friends be acting. Professor Jowett is to be added to the list of the prosecuted. The information against him, however, has called forth an expression of personal sympathy and esteem which must amply compensate him for the inconveniences which he may suffer. The *Times*, in a very remarkable article, protests against the Vice-Chancellor's Court, at Oxford, as "a rusty engine of intolerance." Is Convocation not equally so? Yet the *Times* hopes that the committee of the Lower House will "do its work well." Most probably, however, both of these courts will find that the law has wisely drawn their teeth, and left them only the power to bark.

Mr. Henry Seymour has launched another letter at the ecclesiastical courts, reminding the public that the fees of the officers of these courts, who, for the most part, do nothing, and some of whom have done duty by deputy for nearly forty years, amount to £6,000 per annum, and that the bishops oppose all reform because "their sons, relations, and mere dependants are the judges, registrars, and officers who receive these exorbitant payments." He adds that the common answer of the bishops to remonstrances on the unjust amount and frequency of ecclesiastical fees is that "their secretaries and officers must live!" This matter will, no doubt, come up when the whole question of the Established Church in England is ripe for discussion. The bishops will then be ready enough to abandon these little perquisites.

Proofs of the decline in the number and the scholarship of the clergy accumulate every month. The *Clerical Journal* now publishes the ordination statistics for 1862. It appears that there have been 68 ordinations held during the past year, at which 1,032 candidates were ordained; of these 508 were ordained deacons, and 524 were ordained priests. This number falls short by eighty-six of the number ordained in the previous year. Of the candidates ordained in 1861 there were 856 from the four Universities; whilst in 1862 there were 780, thus showing a falling off of seventy-six in this direction.

Another blow to the State-Church system! The Australian mail brings intelligence of the final passage of the State-aid Abolition Bill by the Legislature of Sydney. We give the particulars in another column. Mr. Adderley remarked, a week or two ago, that short bills were generally dangerous ones. What will he say of the State-Aid Abolition Act? Here it is, letter for letter, and word for word:—

An Act to Prohibit Future Grants of Public Money in Aid of Public Worship.

Whereas it is expedient to prohibit future grants of money from the public funds in aid of public worship, be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows:—

1. So much as is inconsistent with this Act of the seventh William the Fourth number three and of the forty-ninth and fiftieth sections of the Constitution Act assented to by her Majesty under the Imperial Act eighteenth and nineteenth Victoria chapter fifty-four as relates to Schedule C annexed to the said Act, is hereby repealed, and subject only to the payments reserved and authorized by this Act so long as the same shall remain payable, the said Schedule shall also be repealed.

2. No stipend or allowance whatever shall be paid out of public moneys after the passing of this Act to any minister of religion not then in receipt of some such stipend or allowance.

3. Every minister of religion who at the passing of this Act is in receipt of any yearly stipend or allowance paid out of any public fund or moneys shall so long as he shall officiate as such minister under lawful authority within the colony continue to receive such stipend or allowance.

4. Nothing herein shall prejudice the claim of any minister of religion to receive a stipend as chaplain of a gaol or other penal establishment.

5. This Act shall be styled and may be cited as the "Grants for Public Worship Prohibition Act of 1862."

"The passing of this Act," says the *Sydney Herald*, "is regarded with satisfaction, as putting

an end to the dissensions which would be perpetually renewed so long as the question of State-aid to religion remained unsettled."

CONVOCATION.

Both Houses of Convocation of the province of Canterbury assembled at Westminster on Wednesday. In the Lower House, where there was a large attendance, the Dean of Bristol presided as Prolocutor.

BISHOP COLENSO'S BOOK.

Several petitions were presented from the clergy of different dioceses in favour of an address to the Upper House, asking that an inquiry be instituted into Bishop Colenso's work on the Pentateuch.

The standing order of the House having been suspended,

Archdeacon DENISON rose to move an address to the Upper House, praying the Upper House—

To direct the appointment of a committee to examine a book lately published in London, within the province of Canterbury, entitled, "The Pentateuch and Book of Joshua Critically Examined," by the Right Rev. John William Colenso, D.D., Bishop of Natal, and to report whether any, and, if any, what opinions heretical or erroneous in doctrine are contained in the said book.

The speaker proceeded to show from passages in the book that the author denied the truth of the Holy Scriptures and impugned the authority of Jesus Christ. It was impossible the House could pass by such a matter as this. Here was a bishop, though not of this country, yet a bishop of the Church of England, bound to the Church by the most powerful ties, and who had published a book in which he denied the truth of the Holy Scriptures and impugned the authority of Jesus Christ; and published that book, too, not in his own diocese, but in this great metropolis, which, in one sense, was the centre of the civilised world and within the province of Canterbury itself; on every principle, therefore, both of law and equity they were not only justified, but actually bound to take immediate notice of the publication. It had been objected that suspending the standing order interfered with the business of the House; but what he begged to ask was the business of the House? Was it not the business of the House to do service to the Church of England and take care of and uphold the Holy Scriptures?

Dr. M'CAUL seconded the motion with all his heart, because he considered the book which had been published by Bishop Colenso to be a great scandal to the Church. The object, however, of the motion being to inquire into the book, he would not anticipate the judgment of the House upon it; but all must know that very great scandal and very great alarm had been excited by the publication of such a work by a bishop of the Church of England. Nothing could do greater injury to Christianity than to say that a man might dispute the truth of the Bible and yet become a minister of the Church of Christ. The book said truly, that if the principles it advocated were true, in five years' time there would not be an intelligent young man from either university who would offer himself as a candidate for holy orders unless the Church altered its formula that required him to give his assent and consent and declare his belief in the Church of England Bible. He felt, therefore, that the very existence of the Church of England depended upon the clergy and laity of that Church repudiating all such doctrines as were contained in this book; but he was perfectly convinced that the practical sound sense and the honest minds of the people of England would never give credence to the hypocritical preaching from the pulpit of those who did not in their consciences believe what they professed to teach. He hoped that every real Christian would lift up his voice in condemnation of this book.

Archdeacon HONEY said it was with great reluctance that he rose to move an amendment. In attempting to do anything to pass by this book he might be supposed to sympathize with its author, but God forbid such should be the case. His objection to the present proceeding was on general grounds. He thought it was commencing a system which would be carried on with injurious consequences to Convocation, as a similar course was once fatal to its existence, and also injurious to the Church and to society at large. It was said that Convocation was the Church by representation—that was the theory, but he did not believe it to be so in reality. It was not the representative of the Church of England, nor even under the present system was it a fair representation of the province of Canterbury. He believed that the course proposed to be pursued would be ineffectual for any good purpose, and would only give a larger circulation to the work than it would otherwise have obtained. While Convocation did all they could to support religion, they should avoid taking any course which would be prejudicial to religion. He therefore begged to move as an amendment:—

That it is inexpedient that any steps should be taken in Convocation with a view to revive the power of censuring books or authors.

The Archdeacon of STAFFORD seconded the amendment, and thought it extremely unwise for the House to establish itself into a court to pass judgment on questions of heresy. No doubt the House had originally the right of judging not only books, but the men who wrote them. But in the case of Whiston the judges decided that the House must not interfere with the men. It was their inherent right to pass judgment on the books; his opinion, however, was, that they would be acting extremely wrong if they were to exercise that right, for this, if for no other reason,—

that when they had given their judgment no practical result could follow from it.

Archdeacon BROWNE thought it would be most dangerous that by any action on their part they should cause the people to say, "Convocation had condemned the book, but they could not answer it."

The Dean of CANTERBURY thought the House was not proceeding on a right issue. Instead of appointing a committee to inquire into this particular book, they ought to appoint a standing committee to examine into all books, forming, as it were, an Ex-purgatorial Committee.

The Rev. Messrs. Fendall and Woodgate, Dr. Jelf, and Rev. Mr. Massingberd, supported the motion, the Revs. Messrs. Blackstone, M'Kenzie, and Canon Selwyn, opposed it. The latter thought no good could be done by any censure of that House unless the book was answered. The course he should propose would be to ask the Upper House to furnish a full and satisfactory answer to the objections expressed in the book. That would be the best way to meet the evils that had arisen from its publication. The amendment was then put and negatived.

Archdeacon BROWNE then moved the following amendment:—

That this House, deeply deplored the scandal on the Church and the danger to the faith of Christ which have arisen from the publication of the Bishop of Natal, but doubting as to the steps it may be desirable to take in order to remove the scandal and counteract the danger, respectfully request his Grace the President and their Lordships the Bishops of the Upper House, to take counsel as to the wisest and most legal mode of proceeding, and this House assures his Grace and their Lordships the Bishops of their readiness to co-operate with them in the course most fitting, and most likely to be fruitful in good.

He did not wish the House to abdicate its powers, but he thought the original motion would have the effect of acknowledging that they had not the power of doing what he believed they had the power to do. This book had been said to be puerile; he did not think so. It was a book of considerable ability. It had all the speciousness which books of that character generally possessed; but it was a work which, unless very carefully weighed and answered, would have an enormous effect upon the popular mind.

Archdeacon DENISON said the amendment would do more to ruin Convocation in the eyes of the public than any course that could be pursued. It had been said that the public did not entertain much respect for Convocation, but he would ask whether it was the way to gain the respect of the public for the House to refuse an inquiry into the very worst case that had happened to the Church of England for the last 200 years.

Eventually the amendment was negatived, and the original motion agreed to, without a division.

THE CONSTITUTION OF CONVOCATION.

At Thursday's sitting of the Lower House, the Rev. Sir HENRY THOMPSON moved that a committee be appointed to consider the present constitution of the Lower House of Convocation, with a view to suggest and recommend any changes which, in the judgment of such committee, are required by the change of the times to secure to Convocation the confidence of the parochial clergy, of the laity, and of the Government. With regard to the clerical representation, he thought the number of elected members ought to be equal to the dignity of the Crown and the bishops. But the House would never command the confidence of the country without the assistance and co-operation of the laity. The laity ought to meet somewhere. When they considered the influence of the laity in the House of Commons, which was no longer the stronghold of the Church, he thought they ought to meet the clerical representatives of the Church. He believed they would consider it a very high distinction conferred upon them; while they would aid to strengthen the power and authority of that House. As to the mode of gathering the laity and clergy together, he thought the most feasible plan would be to register the communicants of every Christian congregation, and that those communicants should select one of their number to be a synod-man, and that when the bishop issued his writ to elect the clerical proctors a similar writ should issue to elect the laity proctors. If that plan were adopted they would obtain the services of some of the most distinguished men in the country. He also thought it desirable to have some persons with them as *ex officio* members—such as the principal ecclesiastical judges, and the Regius Professors of the Universities. After a few further observations,

The Hon. and Rev. S. BEST seconded the motion.

The Rev. J. W. JOYCE said he most earnestly protested against the admission of laymen into Convocation. His reason was that, from the earliest times, laymen had never been admitted into that body. By admitting laymen they would change the whole status of the House. It would be, in fact, constituting a second Parliament—a kind of *imperium in imperio*—to which the people would never listen. He should therefore move as an amendment—

That a committee of the Lower House be appointed to consider the number of proctors and the mode of appointing the elective members of this House.

Dr. JABB thought it not desirable to admit the laity to Convocation. He was disposed to support the amendment, because the difficulties that were pressed against him on a former occasion he had not yet been able to surmount.

Dr. WORDSWORTH hoped the amendment would be adopted, as it would enable them at a future day to consider the question with all the facts before them. He believed the Convocation had much greater powers than was generally supposed; it was therefore desirable they should use those powers

rather than seek for others which they never had yet possessed.

After some further discussion, the question was put, when the original motion was negatived.

The Rev. Mr. Joyce's amendment was then put as a substantive motion, on which a division took place, when the numbers were, for the motion, 29; against it, 17; majority, 12 in favour of the motion.

BISHOP COLENSO'S BOOK.

At the meeting of the Upper House on Friday, there were only five prelates besides the archbishop, viz., the Bishops of London, St. David's, St. Asaph, Lincoln, and Llandaff, present. The Bishop of Oxford's absence was owing to personal illness.

The ARCHBISHOP brought forward the address of the Lower House.

The Bishop of LONDON, in the course of a long and careful speech, said the gravity of the occasion could not be over-estimated. They had to deal justly with the author of the work; they had to maintain truth; and they had to consider the effect of different modes of action. His speech mainly consisted of an exhibition of the difficulty attending any course open to their Lordships, in consequence of their being liable to be called to act as judges in the case respecting which the public expected them to stand forward as guides of opinion.

It never would do to let the clergy generally through the whole kingdom suppose that it was the duty of every one of them to plunge into such arguments, and because they were bound to drive away all erroneous and strange doctrine, to introduce into their pulpits discussions upon intricate and subtle questions respecting which it might often turn out that, not from any lack of strength in the cause, but from lack of experience and wisdom in the advocate, the worse side might appear to have the better of the argument. It was only the day before he received a packet of advertisements from newspapers of sermons against "Bishop Colenso," which were to be had for a moderate sum, to be preached in the various pulpits. This, of course, was a mere insult to the clergy, and the advertisements were probably inserted by persons who had no such sermons to dispose of; but the advertisements put the clergy in an invidious light, and obviously pointed to those who were supposed to be inclined to stand forth in controversy, but who had not strength to struggle with the difficulties.

He strongly warned his brethren against the dangers of proceeding with zeal without discretion, spoke distrustfully of prosecutions, and recommended reliance on positive uncontroversial teaching on the subject of the truths assailed.

The Bishop of ST. DAVID'S, after severely condemning, as the Bishop of London had done, the action of the committee of the Lower House in the case of the "Essays and Reviews," proceeded to ask whether Convocation was a court of heresy. In the present case the Lower House concealed their ulterior steps. He thought it very inexpedient that they should prejudge a case which might become the subject of judicial proceedings. His Lordship then moved the following resolution:

That this House has taken into its most earnest consideration the prayer of the Lower House; and, considering that serious doubts are entertained as to the competency of Convocation to pronounce a synodical judgment without Royal licence, that the author is a bishop of the South African branch of the Church, and may become amenable to the jurisdiction of his metropolitan, that he has distinctly—(Preface, xxxv., part 1)—avowed his consciousness that his present ecclesiastical position will soon become untenable, unless the Church shall consent to adapt her formularies to his present opinions, does not think it expedient to direct the appointment of the committee prayed for by the Lower House.

The Bishop of LONDON seconded the resolution.

The Bishop of St. ASAPH agreed with the impropriety of appointing a committee to examine the book. There could be no question as to its character.

The Bishop of LINCOLN did not see how their Lordships could refuse to accede to the request of the Lower House, expressed as it had been by an almost unanimous vote of that House. The Church would look to Convocation for an opinion on the matter, and he thought the course the Lower House had taken was a right one. He moved as an amendment that his Grace the President direct the appointment of a committee as prayed for by the Lower House.

The Bishop of LLANDAFF seconded the amendment.

The ARCHBISHOP put the amendment to the meeting, and declared it carried.

The Archbishop of CANTERBURY concurred in the decision which had been arrived at, and said it would have looked rather harsh not to accede to a request of that kind. It would also have looked as if the bishops wished to stifle inquiry.

In the Lower House, on Friday, the following committee on Bishop Colenso's book was nominated:—Deans of Canterbury, Ely, and Westminster; Archdeacons of Bath, Berks, London, Sarum, and Taunton; Proctors—Branton, Harold Browne, Jebb, Jelf, Jeremie, Massingberd, Mackenzie, M'Caul, Selwyn, Williams, and Wordsworth.

The House was then prorogued to May 19th.

NONCONFORMIST CONFERENCE AT BRIGHTON.

At a breakfast meeting of Congregationalists, held at Brighton on the 26th November last, it was resolved, "That at the earliest practicable period a conference of Nonconformists from the county be convened at Brighton, to consider matters bearing on the interests of Evangelical Nonconformity, and our individual duty in reference to it." The meeting was held on Tuesday, Feb. 10th, in the school-room of Queen-square Chapel, Mr. Samuel Morley, of London, in the chair. The attendance comprised all the ministers of the Congregational churches in Brighton, with a number of their deacons and other members; most of the Independent ministers in the county; and

several visitors at present residing in Brighton, amongst whom were J. Paget, Esq., Banker, London, and John Pagan, Esq., ex-Mayor of Rochester.

The programme of business comprised an extensive variety of subjects, the leading topics being Church-rates, Education, Plurality of Ministers, Systematic Lay Preaching, Colportage, Our College, Literature, and Evangelistic Operations. Mr. PAGAN introduced the subject of Church-rates, and contended that the true policy of Congregationalists was that of non-surrender. This principle was fully discussed, and a resolution was unanimously agreed to pledging the meeting to rest satisfied with nothing short of entire abolition. The right of Dissenters to sepulture in the parochial burial-grounds of the kingdom was insisted on, and an earnest desire expressed to support Sir Morton Peto in advocating this and such-like measures involving the rights and liberties of Nonconformists, in the House of Commons. The question of Education was presented to the conference by Rev. PAXTON HOOP and Mr. CREAK under two divisions, the one including the subject of the Revised Code and Government interference, the other our grammar-schools and middle-class instruction. It was felt that the Revised Code was a step in the right direction; but it was held that the only safe ground on which Nonconformists could promote the education of the people was the voluntary principle, as realised under a full sense of parental responsibility. The conference was strongly bent on advocating the establishment of middle-class schools, and especially that such schools as those of Silcockes and Lewisham should be open to the children of other parents besides ministers on their paying a fair amount for the privileges of the establishment, say from 20*l.* to 30*l.* a year, for the education of each boy. The Rev. ROBERT HAMILTON read a suggestive paper on "Plurality of Ministers in one Church," in which he argued from Scriptural authority that in the primitive churches there was a plurality of ministers and such an adaptation of means to ends as called forth the effective power of every church. The discussion on this topic was characterised by considerable diversity of opinion, but the conference were unanimous in finding that, while each church holds the pastorate to be a Divinely-appointed institute, we must be guided by circumstances in the administration of the laws and ordinances with which it is associated. There was a very general feeling evinced in favour of an interchange of pulpits by ministers of Congregational and other Nonconformist bodies in the same town. T. EVERSHED, Esq., read a very elaborate and comprehensive paper on lay preaching. He submitted a statistical view of the moral condition of the county, illustrated by pictorial maps and diagrams, showing the spiritual destitution which prevails, and then contended that, in addition to all the ordinary means of grace, the establishment of a comprehensive scheme of lay preaching was indispensable in order to its being removed. The Rev. J. H. WILSON, secretary of the Home Missionary Society, spoke warmly in favour of the paper, and especially of the agency as a link in the chain, now so perfect, comprising the central church surrounded by affiliated mission chapels, and containing pastors, teachers, evangelists, lay preachers, and female missionaries, each and all being necessary and in accordance with the order of means in the first Christian churches. Mr. Wood, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Figgis, Mr. Pryce, Mr. Rogers, of Petworth, and other ministers, as well as Mr. Creak, Mr. Unwin, Mr. Paget, Mr. Stevens, and other brethren, expressed themselves in favour of this kind of effort. The paper was ordered to be printed, with the maps appended, and circulated all over the county. Connected with this subject Mr. ROGERS read a paper on "Nonconformity in Sussex," part of which was ordered to be printed along with Mr. Eversheds' paper.

The Rev. J. B. FRIGGS read an interesting paper on our colleges, in which he contended for an educated ministry, but showed the need of improvement in the system of training which generally prevailed in the Nonconformist colleges of England. A very animated discussion followed, and a resolution was passed affirming the principles on which the paper proceeded.

An elaborate paper was read by DANIEL PRATT, Esq., on the literature of Nonconformity, which by comparison was shown to be a great and growing power, the publications of the Bicentenary year especially demonstrating an amount of intelligence and literary ability which reflected the highest honour on the Independent denomination. But he contended that there was yet great room for improvement, and illustrated by analogies and examples the value of the press in conjunction with the pulpit as the palladium of our liberty and chief source of our power. The paper was heartily commended, and its suggestions approved.

The delegates adjourned at four o'clock to dinner, Mr. Morley in the chair, and at half-past six resumed the business on the agenda.

The Rev. C. HORNE read an able paper on "The difficulties of Nonconformity in dealing with the peasant population"; which was followed by a very practical statement by the Rev. R. V. PRYCE, on "Nonconformity in Brighton." Resolutions pledging the meeting to increased efforts to plant new interests and extend the means of grace to every destitute locality were agreed to, after much earnest and intelligent discussion.

The CHAIRMAN, who had briefly indicated his views on the different papers as they were read and discussed, reviewed the proceedings of the conference and congratulated the Nonconformists of Brighton on their present position and future prospects. He had known Brighton for many years, and had felt a

deep interest in the civil and religious bearings of its Nonconformity; but he never had attended any meeting which had impressed him more with hopeful expectations than the conference which was drawing to a close. They were there a united body. Every Congregational church was represented by its minister and its deacons or other members, there being but one subject of regret, and that was the absence of their aged and respected brother Mr. Goult, who had been too unwell to attend. In glancing over the topics that had been discussed, he was pleased with the decided tone in which they had been handled. They had come to the decision that the time for compromise in the question of Church-rates was gone for ever, and had made up their minds for "no surrender." He had affirmed the principle of voluntary education, and he felt satisfied, now that the Revised Code had come into operation, which was a step in the right direction, that the abolition of State education, like State-Churchism, was reduced to a question of time. He confessed that he did feel the difficulty of providing for the children of their middle classes, and would anxiously look forward to such improvements as would bring a good education within the reach of every class in the community; but he could not but express his earnest desire to see the schools at present available for ministers' sons only opened up to the children of other parents, that there might be such a blending of sympathies as would be for their mutual good. On the subject of their colleges he could say much, but in present circumstances must restrain himself. He was not an alarmist, and had no sympathy with that indiscriminate mode of criticism which to some extent prevailed; but he would state his decided conviction that there must be changes before our colleges could accomplish the great ends for which they were established. He had a very strong impression that there had been too much made of the classical and too little of the theological in their system of training their young men for the ministry. He was not undervaluing an educated ministry. On the contrary, he held that an educated ministry was one of the wants of the age; but he did think that they should not mix up the secular with the religious within their colleges, but rather promote the one by availing themselves of classical schools outside of their own institutions, together with the advantages connected with the London University, whenever there are natural gifts for languages which might thus be cultivated, and then the whole of the remaining time for study might be given to that theological, Biblical, and practical training which would qualify for the pulpit and the work of evangelisation. He would seek to find out the talents of every man, and then cultivate them according to the gifts God had given, whether for the classic languages or their own mother tongue, taking care that the first qualifications were always present—viz., the grace of the Holy Spirit and aptness to teach. He was very much interested in the paper of Mr. Eversheds on "Lay preaching"; that was a subject the importance of which could not be overrated. He held that every Christian had a ministry and every church-member a work to do, which, if not done by himself, would not be done at all. He would stand up for a lay ministry. It was indeed one of the wants of the age; and it was most encouraging to find that in Brighton every one of the ministers was prepared to promote that kind of evangelistic agency, and could say with Moses, "Would God that all the Lord's people were prophets!" When he thought on the appalling facts brought out by Mr. Rogers's paper "on the spiritual condition of Sussex," from which it appeared that, in a population of over 300,000 people, there were only 3,000 members in the 52 Congregational churches and 12,000 people in attendance, while gross darkness prevailed in so many of the pulpits of the Established Church, he could not but feel that lay agency, every Christian doing something, was indispensable, as well as every other kind of agency, in order that the ignorance, superstition, and sin which prevailed might be overcome by the light, and love, and blessedness of the Gospel of Christ. He confessed to a regret that they had not made the great question of spiritual life more prominent in their meeting that day; but if they carried out the principles that had been advocated, the spiritual results would follow. It became them to put on sackcloth in view of the spiritual destitution which existed around them everywhere, and especially in London; but let them also be hopeful, and realise their responsibility in the faithful discharge of their duties as individuals, as churches, and as united churches, for in these three divisions they must now seek to carry on the work of home evangelisation. In bringing the conference to a close, and offering a few earnest utterances to all who were present, Mr. Morley said:—

"I would affectionately and earnestly say, carry away with you these three things—individual and personal consecration from a sense of duty and a consciousness of individual responsibility to promote the cause of God; church action—every church being an aggregate of the individual power, and able to do more as a church than could be done by the individual; and united action, that is, the action of a union of churches in every locality where they may unite, as has been so well illustrated to-day. You will, I doubt not, go home with an intensified desire thus to promote the cause of God, and give to your people something of that which you have received, and seek to draw forth their sympathies by kind and faithful appeals to their hearts and consciences, and you may depend on it that such appeals will meet with a grateful response; promote cottage-meetings, prayer-meetings, local efforts of every kind, calculated to awaken an interest, as regards the great realities of eternity, in the minds of the slumbering and perishing masses around you, ever depending on the Divine blessing, without which all our labours are in vain."

The meeting then agreed to publish the resolutions

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and, after prayer by the Rev. R. HAMILTON, the conference separated.

THE FIRST "WEDNESDAY" FIGHT IN PARLIAMENT.

(From the *Spectator*.)

On Wednesday next the Conservative party, flushed with the victorious Wednesday traditions of last session, are hoping, it is said, to inaugurate a new series of triumphs on behalf of Church and State, by sacrificing solemnly a confessedly innocent victim on the altar of Conservatism. Sir Stafford Northcote, who so eloquently implored the country the other day not to judge the Conservatives by their after-dinner performances, but rather by the deliberate deeds of the morning sittings of Wednesday, ought to officiate as priest, and rally his supporters to the great symbolic act by which every proposed ecclesiastical reform will be devoted to destruction. Dumb Conservatism, raging against the mere name of improvement in ecclesiastical policy, could scarcely ask to slay a more representative victim than the *Qualification for Office Abolition Bill*,—a bill which even the most morbid Tories speak of as harmless in itself, and only indirectly injurious because, by pulling down sham bulwarks of the Church, it suggests the possibility of removing true ones. Even the chivalrous Duke of Marlborough, whose eloquence last session succeeded in throwing the bill out of the House of Lords, and making the Bishop of Winchester so hysterical that he confounded the sheep with the goats, and at first pressed into the wrong lobby where but one other mitre was,—even he had nothing to say against the bill, except that it had a reforming look, which was in itself objectionable; even he virtually admitted that the declaration which it is the object of this bill to dispense with, would not, if it were now a question of imposing it, be a desirable one, though it is undesirable to abolish it; nor does there appear to be any opinion in its favour, though there are so many against taking it away. Indeed, the briefest mention of the facts of the case only increases one's amazement that any one will show fight for the principle at all.

The law which the Liberals propose to abolish prescribes for every officeholder (whether municipal or imperial) a solemn declaration that the said officeholder "will never exercise any power, or authority, or influence" which he may possess by virtue of such office, "to injure or weaken the Protestant Church as it is by law established in England, or to disturb the said Church, or the bishops and clergy of the said Church, in the possession of any rights or privileges to which the said Church or the said bishops and clergy are or may be by law entitled." Such is the declaration; but municipal officers—namely, mayors, aldermen, recorders, bailiffs, town-clerks, or common councilmen—must make it within a calendar month before taking office, or on their admission to office; while imperial officers, secretaries of state and the rest, are only required to make it within six calendar months after taking office, and, in default of so making it, their appointment is declared void. The consequence is that the municipal officers really make the declaration, often very much against the grain; while imperial officers usually do not take it, and are indemnified at the end of every session by a special act for having omitted so to do, on condition they make it within a given time, which they do not do, but before the expiration of this time another Indemnity Act is passed. And thus we have the truly ludicrous and contemptible situation, that a lot of municipal officers, who could do no harm either to Church or bishops by virtue of their office, are annoyed with an oath they dislike,—that a number of much more powerful officers are liable to it, but evade it, and are exempted from the legal consequences by an infinite series of indemnities. A more elaborate machinery for effecting nothing but annoyance cannot be imagined. If it were enacted that every man taking municipal office should repeat the alphabet a thousand times, and every man taking imperial office should do the same within six months of his entry on it, and then an act were passed every session to indemnify those who have skipped it, the energy put forth would be precisely as beneficial. In 1861 a motion was made for the names of all imperial officers who had been bound to make the declaration, and of those who had made it, and the Home Secretary had to appeal to the House not to press it, on the ground that to give the names would have rendered a great many persons liable to be indicted! And yet it is the repeal of this measure which it is rumoured that the Conservatives are going to oppose next Wednesday with the whole force of their enlightened intellect,—not, we suppose, as a matter of principle, but as a sacred rite, marking the solemnity of their determination not to admit even the faintest breath of Liberal thought within the limits of an ecclesiastical question.

The ceremony would have been more imposing if, instead of catching this harmless little Liberal measure for the Tory altar, they had chosen for a victim some legislative darling of their own,—something liberal of Sir John Pakington's on the education question,—or Mr. Walpole's comparatively conciliatory proposal on Church-rates. The spectacle of a Tory Iphigenia dying by her own parent's hand would have driven home much more strongly to the Whig imagination the divine rage of this Tory resolution to give up, or strike down, everything that stands, or seems to stand, in the Church's way. To sacrifice a puny prisoner of war, even if they can secure it for the purpose, cannot be half so impressive. Of prisoners of war, no doubt,—and some of

far more dignity than this,—they will take enough during the Wednesdays of the session,—but this would be an ignoble initiatory rite. If they want to consecrate anew their energies to the cause of Church Conservatism, it is surely a little mean to begin by solemnly exacting that the legislative pins inserted by Sir Robert Peel in the cushions of the aldermanic chairs shall be religiously guarded there, and that the House will continue to devote time and money to a series of special measures delaying for short periods the insertion of similar pins in the official seats of imperial legislators. That may be a symbolic Tory act, no doubt, but is it not symbolic of a vulgar understanding or a silly sort of monkey-malice as well? The Tories know best how far it is desirable to identify Tory policy with petty and malicious mischief.

PROSECUTION OF PROFESSOR JOWETT.

An action has been commenced in the Chancellor's Court, Oxford, against the Rev. B. Jowett, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of Balliol College and Regius Professor of Greek, on account of opinions expressed by him in his "Commentary on the Epistles to the Romans," and in the article on "The Inspiration of Scripture," in the famous "Essays and Reviews." The appellants are the Rev. Dr. Pusey, Regius Professor of Hebrew; the Rev. Dr. Hartley, Margaret Professor of Divinity; and the Rev. Dr. Ogilvie, Regius Professor of Pastoral Theology—all canons of Christ Church. Some time ago a case was submitted to Sir Robert Phillimore whether Professor Jowett, in his essay or commentary, had so distinctly contravened the doctrines of the Church of England that a court of law would pronounce him guilty. The Queen's Advocate pointed out various passages in the professor's works which, in his opinion, were at variance with and contradictory of the articles and formularies of the Church of England. A further case has been subsequently submitted to Sir R. Phillimore bearing more especially on the professor's "legal position" in view of the statutes of the university. The Queen's Advocate is of opinion that the Vice-Chancellor would be bound to admit articles containing charges of heresy, of preaching doctrines contrary to the Church of England, against any professor resident in the university, and that "the continued sale of a work containing heretical matters or doctrines contrary to those of the Church of England by the publisher of the author does constitute *prima facie* evidence of a contumacious offence on the part of the author, which evidence, however, might be rebutted by proof that the sale took place without the knowledge or privy of the author." The proceedings against Mr. Jowett have created great interest at Oxford, and a large number of junior members of the university attended the court on Friday to hear the preliminaries of the prosecution which has been commenced against him. Upon the case coming on for hearing before the assessor (Mountague Bernard, Esq., All Souls College) Mr. Pottinger, M.A., of Worcester College, one of the proctors of the Chancellor's Court, who appeared for the respondent, applied for a postponement. He urged that the process which had been issued against his client, under peculiar circumstances, was one of an important character, and that, as he had only received three days' notice, the date of the appearance might be altered from the 13th to the 20th inst. He reminded the court that three days' notice was insufficient to get up a case of that important and novel character—a case indeed so novel that he believed nothing of the kind had occurred since the Reformation. This application was assented to, and Mr. Pottinger then gave notice that when the case came on for hearing on the 20th, he should enter a protest against the jurisdiction of the court, and should take every possible objection to the citation as to matter and form, and should call upon the court to exercise its discretion not to issue a new citation, or allow the citation to be amended.

In a letter to the *Daily News* "G. S." of Oxford says:—

The Oxford University Commission would have richly deserved your censure if they had, through laxity or negligence in the exercise of their powers, left in existence so monstrous a remnant of mediæval iniquity as the ecclesiastical and criminal jurisdiction of the Vice-Chancellor's Court. But the fact is, as you will find on reference to the Oxford University Act, that the Commission had no power to deal with this subject at all.

ECCLESIASTICAL QUESTIONS IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

(From the *Sydney Herald*.)

The bill to prohibit future grants for public worship was finally passed on the 3rd instant. All the Council's amendments in the bill had been adopted by the Assembly, with the exception of a new clause which provided that the Act should not refer to the Church and Schools Lands. Upon the message of the Assembly stating their disagreement with this amendment coming to the Council, a last effort was made to resist the passing of the bill, and predictions were uttered of the disastrous consequences that would attend its becoming law; the motion that the Council do not insist on their amendment was, however, carried by a majority of 11 to 8. The reason urged by the opponents of the bill for adhering to their amendment was, their apprehension that in the event of the Church and School Lands Bill not being passed, the present or some future Government would apply to the proceeds of those lands the clause of the State-Aid Bill providing that, "no stipend or allowance whatever shall be paid out of public moneys after the passing of this act to any minister of religion, not then in receipt of some such stipend or allowance"; it was however replied that the Church and School Lands were not public trusts, and could not, therefore, be brought under the operation of that clause. It is understood that the bill is to be reserved for her Majesty's approval,

but there can be little doubt that this will be granted, as ample provision is made for the satisfaction of vested interests. The passing of this measure is regarded with satisfaction, as putting an end to the dissensions which would be perpetually renewed so long as the question of State-aid to religion remained unsettled.

Another session is brought to a close without any settlement of the dispute respecting the Church and School Lands. The Government Bill for the settlement of this question had been returned by the Council to the Assembly with several amendments, one of which was a provision that the Church and School fund should be applied to the purposes of religion and education in the proportion and to the amount heretofore sanctioned, until some other distribution should be made by Act of Parliament. Upon this amendment being discussed in the Assembly, a motion to omit the word "religion" was carried against the Government, by a majority of 25 to 19. This alteration having completely changed the aspect of the bill, the Government determined on not further proceeding with it this session.

CHURCH-RATES ABOLITION BILL.—The second reading of Sir John Trelawny's bill will not, we understand, come on before the Easter holidays, and probably not till the end of April.

CHURCH-RATE RETURNS.—Mr. J. R. Mills has given notice of his intention to move an address for summary returns, showing the number of parishes in each diocese in which church and chapel rates are collected; the total amount raised by them; the amount of endowments; their population; and the amount at which they are assessed to the poor-rate; distinguishing in all these respects the parishes in which church-rates are made by vote in open vestries, under the common law, from parishes which are governed by a select vestry or by a local act. Similar summary return, except the amount of church-rates as to parishes which have made no return or where no church-rate is levied. And a summary of each of the above statements.

CHURCH-RATES AT SYDENHAM.—On Friday this parish was thrown into a state of great excitement in consequence of a poll being taken upon the question of a Church-rate of twopence in the pound. The vestry-meeting was held on Thursday evening, the Rev. C. English, incumbent, presiding. The proceedings were of the usual character of Church-rate meetings. The motion for the rate was proposed by Mr. Churchwarden Adams, and seconded by Mr. Brown. Very strong opposition was exhibited. At the show of hands the numbers were, for the rate, 46; against it, 58. A poll was then demanded by the pro-rate party, and appointed to take place the next day, from eight in the morning till six in the evening. The pro-rate party kept ahead all day, and at the close the numbers were—for the rate, 404; against it, 278. Majority for the rate, 126.

QUALIFICATION FOR OFFICES ABOLITION BILL.—Mr. Field's bill consists of one section, as follows:—"It shall not be obligatory for any person who shall hereafter be placed, elected, or chosen in or to the office of mayor, alderman, recorder, bailiff, town clerk, or common councilman, or in or to any office of magistracy, or place, trust, or employment relating to the government of any county, city, corporation, borough, or cinque port within England and Wales or the town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, either before or upon or after his admission into any of the aforesaid offices or trusts, or for any person who shall hereafter be admitted into any office or employment, or who shall accept from her Majesty, her heirs and successors, any patent, grant, or commission, either before or upon or after his admission to any office, employment, or place of trust, or his acceptance of any patent, grant, or commission, to make and subscribe any declaration prescribed by any of the said Acts." The bill comes on for second reading at the morning sitting of the House of Commons to-day, when it will be vigorously opposed by the full strength of the Conservative party.

"ESSAYS AND REVIEWS."—The appeal of Dr. Williams against the decision of the Court of Arches is proceeding but very slowly. The hearing before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council is not expected to take place before June or July.

THE APPEAL FROM CAPE TOWN.—**LONG v. THE BISHOP OF CAPE TOWN.**—The arguments in this case before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council were concluded on Friday, and their lordships reserved judgment.

NEW AUSTRALIAN BISHOPRIC.—Arrangements have been made, by consent of the Duke of Newcastle, Secretary of State for the Colonies, for the immediate creation of another Australian bishopric, the seat of which will be at Goulburn, between Sydney and Melbourne. The new diocese will embrace an extensive though thinly inhabited region, which, however, like other parts of Australia, is rapidly progressing in population and wealth. The endowment of the new see has been provided by a prosperous colonist.

CLERICAL INTOLERANCE REBUKED BY LAY LIBERALITY.—A short time ago the Rev. F. Morgan, incumbent of Guisbro', Yorkshire, expelled several children from the Providence School contrary to rule, because they did not attend the church on Sundays, and that, too, without the concurrence or even knowledge of some of the managers of that school. At the quarterly meeting of the trustees, held on Friday last, however, a motion was passed by a decided majority, Captain Chaloner, R.N., Lord of the Manor, concurring, making such conduct henceforth illegal, and opening the school to all classes of children, without reference to sectarian distinctions.

BAPTISM BY IMMERSION.—The ceremony of baptism by immersion took place on Wednesday morning last, in Trinity Church, Marylebone. Immediately after the termination of the usual morning service the young lady who was to be baptized, accompanied

by her friends and sponsors, proceeded to take her place near a large bath specially constructed for the occasion, and placed immediately in front of the communion-table. The rector, the Rev. W. Cadman, read the Baptismal Service, and the candidate then underwent immersion in the cold water with much firmness, after which she retired to change her wet clothes. During her absence the congregation engaged in prayer on her behalf, and the remaining portion of the service was read on her return. It is stated that the young lady was previously a member of the congregation.

SEIZURE FOR EASTER-DUES AT CLECKHEATON.—The sale of the furniture seized last week for arrears of Easter-dues alleged to be owing to the Vicar of Birstal, took place on Saturday afternoon, in the George Hotel yard. About 300 persons, chiefly young men, were present, and on the auctioneer mounting the rostrum, several rounds of cheering, which were continued for some minutes, prevented that gentleman from proceeding with the sale. Ultimately, the sale was permitted to begin, and the chest of drawers was bought in by the latter gentleman on behalf of the Easter-dues Defence Association. A horse and cart having been procured, the drawers were placed in the cart, and the sexton of Birstal church being placed on the top, surmounted by a flag belonging to the Birstal Association, they were paraded through the town, and carried to the house of Sutcliffe.

UNION OF DISSENTERS—GLAMORGANSHIRE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meetings of this association, representing over 16,000 communicants, met at Cefncaed-y-Cymar, on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 3 and 4. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"That this conference, having heard of a movement now on foot for a union of Presbyterians, Independents, and Baptists, beg to state that it is ready to unite with all who love and honour the Lord, on the only ground a sincere and honest Christian can unite—taking the Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible, as our rule of faith and practice; but that we cannot afford to unite on the condition of being silent on the great truths taught and practised by Christ and his apostles, considering that any union that would prevent a faithful minister from uttering and expounding the whole counsel of God as unworthy of a moment's consideration."

REFUSAL OF A SITE FOR A PLACE OF WORSHIP.—The Particular Baptists of Blackheath, being urgently in need of a site for a chapel, applied to the Earl of Dartmouth to grant them, as lord of the manor, a bit of the waste land, or to lease them a plot on his own estate. His lordship replied that there are considerable legal difficulties in the way, and added:—"Above all, there would be an insurmountable objection on my part to afford in any degree encouragement to those unhappy divisions which, it is to be feared, impede rather than forward the progress of true religion, both at home and abroad." Mr. Jones, the minister, through whom the application was made, very naturally upon this referred his lordship to the dissensions in the Establishment, and asked them whether there were any "divisions" that could possibly impede religion at home and abroad like those. His lordship's agent then, on his behalf, distinctly declined to grant land for a building for public worship "conducted on any other principles than those of the Established Church, of which his lordship is an attached member"; and he cannot imagine why his lordship should be accused of illiberalism "in simply claiming the privilege to exercise the same liberty of conscience in declining to support any sect of Dissenters that such Dissenters themselves exercise in declining to conform to and support the Established Church."

VALIDITY OF NONCONFORMIST BAPTISMS.—*Apropos* of the Swindon burial case lately reported in our columns, Mr. E. W. Field, solicitor to the British and Foreign Unitarian Association, has, at their request, given the following legal opinion:

36, Lincoln's-inn Fields, Dec. 12, 1862.

My dear Sir,—I cannot conceive there is any doubt that the incumbent of Swindon is bound to bury every person with Christian service who is not within the prohibition of the ecclesiastical law (*i.e.*, not unbaptized, excommunicated, &c.), and that he may be proceeded against both at law and in the ecclesiastical courts if he refuse. (See what Lord Denman says in *Queen v. Stewart*, 12, *Adolphus and Ellis*, in p. 778.) In a recent case in the Privy Council, on an appeal from the Court of Arches, it was held, confirming the decision of the Arches Court, that a child baptized with water by a layman in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, had been baptized within the meaning of the rubric; and a clergyman of the Church of England (the vicar of Gedney, Lincolnshire), having refused to perform the burial office after due notice of the death, was suspended from the ministry for three months. (See Rev. J. S. Escott and Mastin, 4, *Moore's Privy Council Cases*, p. 104.) The judgment in this case goes most fully into the law on the subject, and is very long, occupying twenty pages of the volume. The judges present and concurring in this decision were Lords Wynford and Brougham, Mr. Justice Erskine, and the Right Hon. Dr. Lushington. The Privy Council is the ultimate court of appeal on this subject.—I am, my dear Sir, yours faithfully,

EDWIN W. FIELD,

Rev. R. B. Aspland.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the members of the Young Men's Christian Association was held on Tuesday evening, the 10th instant, at Exeter Hall. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided. The Rev. Mr. Cummins having offered up a prayer, Mr. Shipton, the secretary, read an abstract of the report. During the year the association had made steady progress. The young men connected with it might be regarded as commercial Christian missionaries, and some interesting facts showing the good they accomplished

were narrated. Among the numerical results of the year's operations was the addition of 206 members to the Association, of whom sixty-three had joined in the central district. [Evidences of Christian character are required for admission to membership.] The report went on to state that during the year 1862 it had fallen to the lot of the committee to arrange for the periodical assembly of delegates from the various Young Men's Christian Associations of Europe and America. The previous conferences held in Paris in 1855, and in Geneva in 1858, had been of great service to the cause in promoting the acquaintance of the conductors of the work in various countries, in exhibiting the different forms of operation suited to the various districts represented, and above all in tending to cement the union of spirit, principle, and aim, which by God's good providence has from the first characterised the associations. The income for the year was £4,000, and the expenditure had been £3,847. 12s. 1d. The balance due to the treasurer had been reduced to £290. 17s. 3d., and it was the earnest wish of the committee that the debt should be entirely got rid of. The Rev. Charles Prest then addressed the meeting on "The Work of the Young Men's Christian Association." The Rev. Canon Stowell spoke on "How to be rooted and grounded in Divine truth." In our day, he said, we saw attacks made on certain portions of God's word. These attacks were not remarkable for originality, but for the incongruity which was chargeable on those who made them. He earnestly advised the young men to walk in the old paths, and not to be led away by the speculations of those whose quarrel was really against the great doctrines of Christianity. Speeches were then made by the Rev. E. Bayley and Mr. Smithies. The noble Chairman, in replying to the vote of thanks, said if the members of the association walked in the good old Gospel paths, they would be the means of doing much good. If, however, the leprosy of scepticism became extensively prevalent in it, then it would be better for the world that it should be broken up. He warmly advised the young men to adhere to the truth. The meeting closed with prayer.

Religious Intelligence.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, BIRMINGHAM.

A new Independent Chapel was opened at the Lozells, in this town, on the 10th inst. The Rev. Dr. Vaughan and the Rev. W. Landels were the preachers. The devotional services were conducted by the Rev. G. B. Johnson, the Rev. R. D. Wilson, and the Rev. W. F. Callaway, in the morning; and in the evening by the Revs. J. P. Barnett, J. J. Brown, and R. Ann. The congregations were large, and included about forty ministers.

The general style of the building is Italian. Its dimensions are eighty feet by fifty-three. Pewed in the ordinary way it would seat 1,200 persons. The floor is carpeted, and cushioned chairs supply the place of pews. Sufficient space is given to the worshippers to enable them to turn round and kneel on the floor during prayers. The chairs are to be appropriated like ordinary sittings, but instead of pew-rents, collections, and subscriptions, all the expenses connected with the maintenance of Divine worship in the place are to be met by weekly offerings. For seeing and hearing the building is perfect. It has two galleries, one above the other, the fronts of which are of iron-work, which give a light and airy appearance to the interior. It has no organ. The congregation generally use tune-books and sing their proper parts. On either side of the pulpit are tablets on which the hymns and tunes to be sung are indicated, so that the giving out these is dispensed with.

About 150 persons took dinner and tea together in the school-room. After dinner the Rev. J. T. Feaston, the pastor of the church, expressed sentiments of loyalty and attachment to the Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the Royal family, and the National Anthem was sung. The services of the Revs. Dr. Vaughan and W. Landels were then acknowledged; Mr. Robinson seconding the pastor in the expression of their thanks. The Rev. Dr. Vaughan said that he was very glad to see such a sign of progress in Birmingham as he had witnessed that day. His conviction was that this ought to have occurred many years ago. It was a matter of painful reflection to him that the Congregational body, amidst the immense increase of the population in Birmingham, had progressed so slowly. They had, however, a sign that day that things were going forward. For his own part he felt a peculiar interest in the town of Birmingham, because his own budding ministry, if he might use such an expression, began in this great town. Mount Zion Chapel was built for him, and he was offered a handsome salary if he would go there for a few years to see if he could raise an interest there. He regarded with special interest the chapel which had been that day opened, because of some new features in its arrangements and modes of worship. The essential principles of Independency were increasingly dear to him, but for some of the adjuncts of Independency he cared very little. There were certain things which had got associated with Independency which were quite extrinsic and accidental, and for some of these, he confessed, he had little regard. He noticed with satisfaction the arrangements which had been made to provide for kneeling during prayer-time. He could not imagine that sitting was a proper position for prayer, and he thought that many Church people

who attended our places of worship formed unfavourable impressions in consequence. As an illustration of this Dr. Vaughan stated that when he was a minister at Kensington his chapel was occasionally attended by Church people who would, during prayers, turn round and kneel on the floor. He had seen a duke there kneel upon the bare boards. Another pleasing feature in connection with the erection of the chapel was the aid which had been received from the other Dissenting bodies in the town. That a considerable number of neighbouring churches had, on the preceding Sabbath, made large and liberal collections on behalf of the Lozells new building, was a most gratifying circumstance. It had been said of independent churches that they had no union and did not care for each other, but he thought this was a sufficient proof to the contrary. The company was afterwards addressed by the Revs. R. W. Dale, M.A., G. B. Johnson, and C. Vince, and by Messrs. Millichamp and Nunneley. The Rev. C. Vince said that correspondence had lately appeared in the *Nonconformist* newspaper on union between Baptists and Independents. He would say to those writers, Come to Birmingham, and you will find the thing you long for. The collections amounted to £125. The building cost somewhat above £3,000, and the land £750. About £2,500 has been raised.

Messrs. Poulton and Wood, of Reading, are the architects from whose design the chapel has been built. Mr. F. D. Johnson, of Birmingham, is the local and superintending architect, and Mr. W. Bennett, Lozells, is the builder.

THE SPECIAL SERVICES.—At St. James's Hall, on Sunday, the services were conducted by the Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B., and the Rev. F. K. Greaves. At the several theatres the preachers were:—Britannia, Rev. John Graham, of Craven Chapel; Surrey, Mr. Holroyd, of Frome; Sadler's Wells, Rev. S. Thornton, and Rev. J. Pulsford; Standard, Rev. W. Saunders; Pavilion, Rev. W. Hardie; Effingham, Mr. Fieldwick; Eastern Alhambra, City-road, Rev. J. Kelley (a North American Indian). At St. Paul's Cathedral, the Rev. C. J. Phipps Eyre, M.A., Rector of St. Marylebone, was the preacher.

MAIDSTONE.—The Rev. D. G. Watt, M.A., formerly of Northwich, Cheshire, late of Manchester, has accepted the invitation to the pastorate of the Congregational Church assembling at Week-street Chapel, Maidstone, and enters upon his stated ministry on Lord's-day next, 22nd inst.

CROYDON COMMON.—The New Congregational Church, Selhurst-road, Croydon-common, was opened on Tuesday, the 3rd February, by the Rev. James Fleming preaching in the morning, and the Rev. Thomas Aveling in the evening, the Revs. H. Smith (of Anerley) and F. Stephens (of Croydon) taking part in the services. On the Sunday following, the 8th, the Rev. F. Stephens, Croydon, and the Rev. John Davies, Walthamstow, preached morning and evening. This place of worship was extremely needed in the neighbourhood of Dagnall-park, and is of tasteful and novel construction—the interior being of wood, and the exterior of Portland cement. It has 200 sittings, and cost only £200, and the land £180, together £380; but only £90 have as yet been given. The Rev. J. Brown is the minister. There are 100 children regularly attending the Sunday-school.

HOWDEN INDEPENDENT CHAPEL.—On Wednesday evening the annual tea-meeting of the Independent church and congregation was held in the Milton Room—at least 400 persons being present. After tea the chair was taken by John Crossley, Esq., mayor of Halifax, who opened the meeting in a brief but able speech. Mr. Ostler gave a statement of the position and prospects of the church, which was of a most encouraging character. The Rev. W. Thomas, of Leeds, adverted to the necessity of Christian earnestness and Christian thoroughness, and to the importance of zealous co-operation between minister and people. After a few remarks by the Rev. S. Gladstone, of Goole, the Rev. H. Simon, of Castleford, delivered a very forcible address; and was followed by the Rev. R. Harley, F.R.A.S., of Brighouse. The Rev. T. Waulmsley (Primitive Methodist) also expressed the pleasure he felt in being present. The usual votes of thanks were passed.

Correspondence.

DENOMINATIONAL UNION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—“Observer” has given, in your paper of Jan. 28, his own answer to my inquiry as to the feelings of our Baptist friends respecting the proposed union. I do not know that I need, personally—or even that I ought, in presence of so many more competent to do it—to offer any rejoinder; but if, in the absence of others, you are willing to allow me, I will write a few lines to that effect. The basis of his reply appears to be the idea that Independents in general do not understand or realise how far the ground of our difference is one of firm and conscientious principle on the part of himself and his friends, and a paper you have also given from the *Freeman* takes the same line of argument. For myself, I can say that I am ready to admit this to any extent to which he can ask it, though it certainly was new to me that so large a proportion are so “rigid,” as the unfriendly would call it—but I would rather say, go so far in anti-Pedobaptist principle, as to be quite unable to take the Lord's Supper by the side of any other than Baptist Christians. I had judged otherwise, not only from general conversation, but from the large number of members whom it is usual to find in our Congregational churches, not only holding Baptist views, but calling themselves Baptists, and having been elsewhere united with Baptist churches. This admits,

of course, of other explanations; but it did seem to me to point to a different conclusion from that which the *Freeman* states to be the fact. As it is a case of principle and conscience, I would not say a word which could have the appearance of harshly judging other men's views; but, admitting all that "Observer" says, I am still unable to see in the proposed union under one name, the necessity for the "compromise or sil-nœ" as to essentials, which he sets his face so firmly against.

We may surely hold an opinion or a belief tenaciously without constantly bearing testimony in its behalf—for we are not to be supposed to believe all that we are not frequent in declaring our disbelief of, and vice versa. Considering the freedom of opinion our Congregational bodies enjoy, there is, we cannot but feel, a wonderful and happy degree of oneness of sentiment on the non-essentials of Christian faith and practice, but doubtless these bodies include many who hold most firmly certain opinions which they know their fellow-worshippers would dissent from, but which they do not feel they are at any moment weakly denying, by not insisting on bringing them forward on their lists. One may say, if he chooses to say it, "I was a Baptist," or "I am an Independent," without being supposed to imply, "I believe exactly, and in all respects, what the Baptists or Congregationalists, respectively, either the whole or the majority of them, believe,"—except on the few simple vital points of Christian faith, which to reject is not to "hold the Head."

Do the Baptists, then, regard either of their two distinguishing tenets in this light, as that in which belief is necessary to salvation? In other words, do they deem Christian Congregationalists—believing themselves baptized—to be out of the pale of salvation? If not, where is the essential core of diversity which compels us to a separate name and existence? In different views of Church government and order? Certainly not. Then where?

I may be, in "Observer's" view, greatly in error, may, very wanting in perception, if I confess that, giving the fullest weight to the conscientious difference of view, as to the mode and subjects of baptism, this still seems to me far too light to outweigh the pressing calls for Christian unity, so far as it is attainable. For give my dwelling so much on this point. I do so because I feel that it is one of the hinges—probably the main hinge of the question, to unite, or not to unite? I must say,—though I should be sorry to have it supposed I offer it as a bait,—that, were I a Baptist, convinced of the truthfulness of my own tenets, I should sincerely welcome the idea of throwing down the barriers of sect—nominal though they be, yet, alas! still far too real—in the belief that, when this admitted obstacle to the acceptance of an "opponent's" views was removed, my own cherished opinions could not fail to gain the attention and win the belief of very many as yet opposed to them, rather from early association than from personal examination. If it be said to me, "Then here is peril to Pædobaptist views," I reply, "So be it, if only fair argument and a prayerful reference to the great standard be the means resorted to." If any one be so attached to his own opinions as to morbidly shrink from the possibility of being convinced that he is in error, he is not a believer, but a bigot. I should be ashamed of such "opinions," which are no opinions, but only prejudices, and "Observer" is quite welcome to try to convince me if he thinks it worth while. Be it remembered—and I, for one, attach some weight to this—that, with the removal of these barriers, the temptation to mere proselytising would also be removed, and then so much the better for the "truth."

Respecting the minor points of "Observer's" letter, I have but little to say. His evil forebodings of the sort of union which alone he thinks we are likely to secure I cannot share. I see no indication of it. Surely they are earnest, intelligent Christian men who are anxious to see the union effected, and little likely to be satisfied or to sympathise with "the formation of a small sect of Unionists or Anti-Sectarians who . . . would, probably, be amongst the most intolerant and conceited of the sects, rivalling even the Plymouth Brethren" in their intense and unchristian sectarianism.

His remarks as to its "being the practice" of Independents to call themselves alone "Dissenters," and to "desire to ignore the existence of the Baptists altogether," I do not understand, and must be content to set my experience—whatever it be worth—directly against his, for I have never met with the case; and I would, though courteously, ask, Does it not exist in imagination only? Nay, the practice among ourselves is rather, I think, to give Baptists credit for being the more thorough-going and uncompromising "Dissenters" of the two. But "Observer," or any other Baptist, is perfectly welcome to my personal share in the questionable distinction of such a cognomen. He also observes that they "have never seen any indication on the part of the Independents (of a desire) to form a union with the Baptists, except such as would involve the absorption of the smaller into the larger body." If this be the case, it is, I apprehend, not because the latter are a smaller body, but only because at present the Baptists are *de facto* also Congregationalists, but preferring, for reasons which they deem sufficient, a separate name and existence. It follows, therefore, necessarily, that if the two are to be united both must, not become, but be, "Congregationalists," simply because both are so now. But, if this be the stumbling-block, by all means let some other name be found, the common adoption of which shall meet and satisfy the sensitive feeling which "Observer" ascribes to his friends.

Neither of our own two designations, "Independent" and "Congregationalist," is, I take it, so very exact and precisely descriptive of our principles of either faith or order as to be worth seriously fighting for, and, at any rate, it would be an easy and cheap surrender, if it would remove the objection to so desirable a result.

I had intended to say a few words on some points touched on by the *Freeman*, but I have, I am sure, occupied enough of the space you so kindly grant, and must forbear. I will only say that I trust we may have further information on the matter about which I have mainly written, as to the general feeling of our friends on this question, and that after what, it seems, some call a "palaver," some practical suggestions may be made, so that we may feel that at least some progress is making. I hope also that other correspondents will follow "J. S." in giving information respecting "Union" Churches already formed, in town or country—their names and their methods. This will certainly carry the question forward. Again, referring to the very interesting information of "Amicus," as to the existence of

comprehensive Independent churches in Huntingdonshire—one, for instance, "with five pastors and seven places of worship," one of them at least large enough, I presume, to admit of the Church's "coming together into one place," I will conclude by cordially reiterating the remark of "Amicus," that it "would be interesting to know something about the working of those communities." I hope the hint will be taken by any in Huntingdonshire or elsewhere who have anything practical to state on this matter, and am,

Sir, your truly,

R. W. ROGERS LONG.

THE DEVONPORT ELECTION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR.—William Busfeild Ferrand is now member for Devonport! Can you believe your own eyes as you read the sentence? I can scarcely believe mine, as I write the words. But so it is! One of the most roaring demagogues in creation has beaten a son of Earl Grey by a majority of thirty, in a borough of nearly 70,000 inhabitants, which owes its political being to the Reform Bill of 1832, of which bill it is well known Earl Grey was the father! A borough, too, which, with one brief and memorable exception, has invariably returned Liberal candidates since its enfranchisement!

And now for the explanation of this political phenomenon. Let me first mention those things in Sir Frederick Grey's candidature which contributed to his defeat. We have found to our cost that he was for us a most unfortunate choice.

1. His official position as First Naval Lord of the Admiralty drew down upon him the unpopularity of all the reforms made in the administration of the dockyard. One new regulation alone lost Sir Frederick scores upon scores of votes. I refer to the Admiralty minute, which declares any man in any dockyard ineligible for promotion after the age of forty-five; in my view a most unjust law, and which must be altered. Hundreds of our voters are more or less intimately connected with the dockyard, and you may suppose what a damaging effect the regulation referred to had upon our prospects. Sir Frederick was too honourable a man to give any pledges upon the matter, standing, as he does, in high official connection with the Admiralty, and hence we lost the election. I am confident that this cause alone is sufficient to account for our defeat.

2. Then again, Sir Frederick Grey's opinions upon political matters were anything but advanced. He is a Whig of the Whigs, dead against the ballot, would give no pledges as to the extent to which he would enlarge the franchise, and refused to commit himself to the repeal of the iniquitous Game Act Bill of last Session. On the Church-rate question he was tolerably orthodox, but barely so, as he began to talk at his nomination about rural parishes as presenting exceptional features, &c., and I trembled in my shoes lest something should slip out that would damage us on that question.

Personally I did my best for Sir Frederick. One or two moderate Conservatives voted for him, but many advanced Liberals refused to do so, and thus helped to lose us our election. One thing is clear, a milk-and-water reformer must not be brought forward again. We must have an advanced Liberal, or we shall be beaten out of both seats. Sir Frederick Grey's political creed might be summed up in one word—Palmerston; but one is getting sick of this everlasting substitution of a man for a personal, vigorous faith in progress on all great public questions.

3. And, finally, Sir Frederick Grey is too honourable a man to descend to the ordinary manœuvres of a Parliamentary canvasser. I have been thrown into constant intercourse with him throughout this great contest, having the honour of a seat in our Central Liberal Committee of Six, and I never met with a man having a higher, keener sense of honour than Sir Frederick. Every one who knows him must respect and even revere him. Personally, I shall always think of him with the most profound veneration. Still his manners, though dignified, are anything but bland and winning. He is too cold and curt to awaken enthusiasm for himself personally. Most of those who voted for him voted for him simply as the chosen Liberal candidate. They acted from a sense of duty and nothing else.

And now a word or two as to the causes of Mr. Ferrand's success, so far as they are to be found in himself. Of course, all that damaged Sir Frederick aided Mr. Ferrand, and the latter did not forget to make vigorous use of the facts above-mentioned. Mr. Ferrand has an unequalled pair of lungs, tremendous physical powers, most marvellous self-satisfaction, and an assurance that will carry him through anything. These have great weight with the unthinking many. Hundreds of our voters are working men, and these Mr. Ferrand "ticked" to their hearts' content. He promised them everything they asked for. "He was the man; and he would do it for them!" He has burdened himself with promises and pledges as to what he will do for the working men of Devonport and East Stonehouse that must sink him. On the other hand, Sir Frederick would promise nothing that he knew could not be obtained. Our working men have been completely gullied by Mr. Ferrand, and must find out their mistake before long. The day after Mr. Ferrand's election, bread fell to the quarter loaf in the borough, and the blind devotees of that gentleman actually attributed this fall to his return. What will not credulity believe?

The following consequences will result from our recent election: our Parliamentary debates will be enlivened with sensational personalities; the place of Colonel Sibthorpe will be more than filled; the Speaker will not have so easy a time of it as of yore; and *Punch* will have matter furnished for some new, rich, and racy cartoons. But the Liberal portion of this borough will never sit easy under the disgrace of being represented by William Busfeild Ferrand, Esq.; and unless I am greatly mistaken, our Conservative friends will soon have had enough of him. The borough is essentially an advanced Liberal borough. Three hundred and twenty-four of our voters never polled.

With best wishes, yours truly,

JOHN STOCK.

Devonport, Feb. 16, 1863.

GOTHIC CHAPELS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—It was with much pleasure I read in your last number a letter entitled, "Hints to Chapel-Builders." Were it in my power I would place a copy of that letter in the hands of all who are thinking of building a new

chapel or of rebuilding an old one. I cannot but hold it as one of the greatest blunders which the Independents of this age have made, to erect so many places of worship in this style, and it seems to me to be a most unfortunate thing that during the celebration of the Bicentenary, when so many new chapels have been undertaken, Gothic should be so much in fashion. There can be little doubt that ten years hence, or even less than that, many who have "cried up" the Gothic as the best of all styles, will eagerly "cry it down" as the worst of all—worse, even, than the old barn style. Beautiful though it no doubt is, yet it appears to me that there are three defects in it which no architect can overcome. First, it is hardly possible to warm a chapel built in this style. There are constant complaints of draughts, even where there is a good heating apparatus, and where the roof is under-drawn. Second, they are difficult to speak in—far more difficult, in proportion to their size, than our old chapels are. Third, they are not suited for our worship. They may do very well for the service of Roman Catholics, but not for that of Protestant Dissenters, or for any body who give the teacher a prominent work. These defects I have never seen surmounted in any Gothic chapel, and the beauty of this style of building, however great it be, I therefore hold is bought at far too high a price—at the price, in fact, of comfort, and utility, and fitness. I am heartily glad to see signs in the north that the Gothic tide is ebbing. May it soon disappear, to return no more amongst us. I know of towns and populous districts in Yorkshire where a Gothic chapel could not be erected unless it were with the money of strangers: local contributors would not waste their money on such structures. And the sooner this is the case throughout the Dissenting community the better. Having preached in a Gothic chapel for nearly six years, what I say of this style may, I hope, receive the more consideration from those who are thinking of chapel-building.

J. R.

THE NATIONAL TEMPERANCE RELIEF FUND.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—Among those of our fellow countrymen in Lancashire who are now in distressed circumstances there are none more worthy of sympathy and assistance than the men who in years gone by were the pioneers of the great Temperance reformation. The National Temperance Relief Committee has been formed for the purpose of affording relief to suffering teetotalers, and the need which existed for such exertions has been shown in a pamphlet entitled "Who will not help?" (London, Caudwell, 335, Strand), in which a member of the committee has given the results of a visit paid by him to the cotton districts; and if any additional proof were needed, the following extracts received from persons to whom grants of money have been made will be sufficiently conclusive. The Rev. Charles Garrett, a well-known and highly-respected Wesleyan minister at Preston, says:

"Accept my best thanks for the contribution from the National Temperance Relief Committee. It is needed far more than the donors imagine. Many of our total abstainers have stood out bravely, and by the aid of their former savings, and by rigid economy have done without relief, but their little stores are now exhausted."

Mr. S. Yates, hon. sec. of the Bury Temperance Society:

"Amongst the cases named to you are some of the oldest veterans in the Temperance cause—men who saved money against such calamities as this which is now afflicting them, but who have had to succumb, so long and arduous has been the trial."

It would be easy to multiply proofs of the necessity for the existence of the National Temperance Relief Committee; but I hope that what I have stated will arouse the sympathies of some of your readers on behalf of an exemplary class of people who in their days of prosperity long and earnestly laboured to promote the social well-being of their fellow-countrymen. The subscriptions already received are quite inadequate to the circumstances of the case.

Permit me to add that several of those who have been asked to aid the National Temperance Relief Fund have remarked that they could have rendered more assistance if the committee had commenced their work earlier. The simple explanation is that the fund was not required until all the savings of the teetotalers had been exhausted, they having too much self-respect to appeal for help until absolutely compelled.

I am, dear Sir, yours obediently,

HARPER TWELVETREES.

Bromley, Middlesex, Feb. 13.

MISSIONS TO MADAGASCAR.

Yesterday evening there was held in Freemasons' Hall a special public meeting, on behalf of Madagascar, of the members and friends of the London Missionary Society, with a view of diffusing information on the labours of the society in that island, and especially to promote the erection of memorial churches in the city of Antananarivo. The assembly quite filled the hall, and manifested the liveliest interest in the proceedings. The Right Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G., took the chair at half-past six o'clock, and was surrounded by many ministers and gentlemen of various denominations; among whom were the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, M.P., Mr. Thomas Barne, M.P., Mr. George Hadfield, M.P.; the Revs. S. Martin, Dr. J. Macfarlane, A. M'Millan, Dr. Tidman, E. Prout, J. Pillans, S. M'All, Dr. Davis, G. Rose, F. Soden, J. W. Richardson, P. Latrobe, William Arthur, W. B. Mackenzie; Messrs. Cooke, Eusebius Smith, J. K. Welsh, J. M. Hare, and others.

After the singing of the hymn,

All hail the power of Jesus' name,

Let angels prostrate fall.

The Rev. A. M'MILLAN offered prayer.

The Rev. Dr. TIDMAN then rose and said he had a brief statement to make, on behalf of the directors, of the history, operations, and prospects of the Madagascar mission. The introduction of the Gospel into Madagascar was one of the most important of the earliest enterprises contemplated by the fathers and founders of the London Missionary Society. They commenced the effort forty-five years ago. In March, 1819, Messrs. Bevan and Jones landed in the island with a view to permanent labour, but within a few weeks the former, with his wife and child, were removed by death; the wife and child of his associate also died; while the

solitary survivor was compelled by illness to return to Mauritius. In the autumn of the following year, he returned, accompanied by Mr. Griffiths, and settled at Antananarivo, the capital, with the entire approval of Radama, the King. From 1818 to 1828, the directors sent fourteen labourers to Madagascar. King Radama died at the expiration of eight years from the establishment of the mission, and was succeeded by the late Queen, whose reign of cruelty and terror extended to August, 1841. The missionaries established during their fifteen years of labour nearly a hundred schools with 4,000 scholars. More than 10,000 children passed through the schools and received a useful education. Two large congregations were formed at the capital, and nearly 200 persons were admitted to church-fellowship. Printing-presses were set up, and the Scriptures, with other publications, printed in the native language. Towards the close of 1834, the persecutions carried on under the authority of the Queen compelled the missionaries to abandon their field of labour, and during a quarter of a century following many thousands of the native Christians suffered poverty, slavery, and death. The Rev. W. Ellis, on his visit to Madagascar in 1856, collected much authentic information respecting these faithful confessors. The first Christian martyr suffered in 1837, and the second in the following year. Three or four years afterwards nine were put to death in the most cruel manner. In 1849 fourteen were cast over the granite rocks of the capital and dashed to pieces, while four other victims belonging to the nobles of the country were burnt alive. Eighteen months ago the Queen died, and was succeeded by her son and only child, Rakotond Radama. His principles and policy, both foreign and domestic, are the reverse of his mother's, and he has proved himself the deliverer and friend of the enslaved and suffering Christians. The reopening of Madagascar to the missionaries of the Cross left the directors of the London Missionary Society without hesitation as to their course of duty, and accordingly Mr. Ellis was again requested to undertake the mission of preparing the way for the introduction of a large body of missionaries, who have since joined him on the island. The number of native Christians in the capital and immediate neighbourhood is about ten thousand. From the communications made to them by Mr. Ellis and his coadjutors, the directors were convinced of the necessity for more capacious and durable places of worship. Owing to the Lancashire distress, they abstained from asking for congregational collections, but they have stated the case publicly, and have succeeded in raising a fund of £6,500 for the express purpose in view. A special appeal had also been made to the juvenile friends of the society. In July last the Bishop of Mauritius made a visit to Antananarivo, with the intention of being present at the coronation of Radama, and of making himself acquainted with the religious condition of the people. In a sermon preached to his congregation on the Sabbath preceding his departure, he stated that he desired to avoid anything like interference with the noble work of the London Missionary Society, but that in so wide a field there was abundant room for the independent operations of the Episcopal Church. During the bishop's stay at the capital it was mutually agreed by the bishop and Mr. Ellis that in any effort made by the Church Missionary Society or the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the agents which those institutions might send forth should occupy some of these wide fields of ignorance and heathenism yet uncultivated; that thus no collision or interference should occur between the labourers, but that they should pursue their several operations in the spirit of mutual good will and fraternal regard. In accordance with this undertaking the Church Missionary Society and the Propagation Society were each about to send two devoted labourers to Madagascar. Dr. Tidman then went on to say—In these arrangements the directors of the society most cordially concurred. They could not hope, in addition to all their other extended labours, so to increase the number of their missionaries in Madagascar as to meet the wants of nearly five million souls, of whom the greater part are still under the influence of dark and degrading superstition; and they rejoiced, therefore, that other labourers were about to be sent forth into this wide and long-neglected field, and were ready to bid them God-speed in the name of the Lord. (Hear, hear.) But with equal surprise and regret they have more recently learned that efforts are making to form a new society, under the highest ecclesiastical patronage, specially with the design of sending out a bishop and six missionary clergymen to Madagascar. (Hear, hear.) It is proposed, not that the agents of the intended institution should "occupy those populous districts which lie on the coast, or in the interior remote from the capital, but that they should make the capital itself the centre and basis of their operations. (Hear, hear.) It must be concluded that at least several of the distinguished prelates who have given the sanction of their names to this project have been unacquainted with the fact that the London Missionary Society commenced its labours in the island between forty and fifty years ago, and that the results have been so wonderful and blessed; for the printed statement to which their names are prefixed, referring to last year only, states that "the French Romish missionaries and the London Missionary Society have already commenced operations"—a representation calculated, though, we doubt not, undesignedly, to conceal the facts and to mislead the reader. (Hear, hear.) Against the proposed measure, and especially the manner in which it is intended to be carried out, the directors of the society enter their most decided and solemn protest. (Loud cheers.) It is in direct opposition to that good understanding and catholic spirit which have been invariably maintained by the Protestant missionary institutions, both of Britain and of all other countries, who have endeavoured to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, and acted upon the wise counsel of Abraham to his kinsman—"Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between me and thee, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen; for we be brethren. Is not the whole land before thee? separate thyself, I pray thee, from me: if thou wilt take the left hand, then I will go to the right; or if thou depart to the right hand, then I will go to the left." (Cheers.) The course of operation intended is pregnant with mischief, and cannot fail to give occasion to the Romish missionaries to make the apparent rivalry and strife of their Protestant opponents subservient to their own purposes and policy. (Hear, hear.) In the capital, consisting at the utmost of not more than forty thousand inhabitants, there will shortly be eleven English missionaries, agents of this society, besides a goodly band of native pastors and

catechists. This field, therefore, with the country around it, will be adequately pre-occupied, while other parts will remain without a solitary labourer. (Hear, hear.) Such an intrusion as that contemplated stands strangely in contrast to that great missionary who testified, "Yea, so have I strived to preach the Gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation. But as it is written, To whom he was not spoken of they shall see, and they that have not heard shall understand." (Cheers.) If it is intended by an episcopal and clerical appointment to ignore the missionary labour of our brethren, and practically to deny the Scriptural character of their ministry—then, without attempting to vindicate themselves by argument, they may be content to appeal to the enlightened and Christianised thousands of Madagascar, and say, "Ye are our epistles written in our hearts, known and read of all men: forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistles of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshly tables of the heart." But should remonstrance prove in vain, and this measure of aggression be carried into effect, although we should deeply deplore it, we will earnestly exhort our brethren to "leave off contention before it is meddled with"; and "by pурнss, by knowledge, by long-suffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,"—by these means to make full proof of their ministry, and adorn the doctrine of God their Saviour in all things. (Loud cheers.)

Lord SHAFESBURY, who on rising was received with applause, said that, in common, he supposed, with all present, he had come to the meeting to be instructed, and not to teach; and had it not been for the latter part of the statement by Dr. Tidman, he should certainly not have offered any remarks at all. But after that statement, he felt it to be absolutely necessary that the chairman should make some observations, particularly as he happened, by God's blessing, to be a member, and a very sincere member, of the Church of England. (Hear, hear.) He must confess that he had heard with sorrow, yea, with dismay, that it was contemplated to set up a new mission to Madagascar; that there was to be a bishop, springing from what he knew not, and a body of clergy, tending to what he knew not, sent into that island, not to roam over regions of it where the Gospel had not been preached, not to carry the light of life to the heathen, but to enter the capital itself, there to encumber by an effulgence of glory the light which has been already diffused. (Cheers.) Till the morning of that very day he had known nothing in detail of the intentions of the parties; and now that he was made aware of them, he must say that of all the undertakings that had ever entered into the mind of man, it was the wildest and most objectionable. (Hear, hear.) In the first place, it was wholly unnecessary, the ground being pre-occupied by the London Missionary Society, aided by the Church Missionary Society and the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. By these means there would soon be eleven learned and pious and active missionaries in the capital of Madagascar to carry on the evangelistic work that had been so blessedly begun; and it should be remembered that that city contained only a population of 40,000 persons. What on earth was wanted beyond that which had thus been commenced? If more should be required, let it proceed from those who had instituted the work, and who were well qualified and able to carry it on to completion. (Cheers.) And not only was it unnecessary—it was also perilous, and that in a high degree, because it would perplex and mislead the people, and so be fatal to the progress of the Gospel among them. It would check the efforts of the London Missionary Society, and bring great discredit upon the Church of England, while the Romanists would most certainly rejoice, and take full advantage of it. (Hear, hear.) Moreover, nothing could be more ungenerous. (Hear.) The past labours and successes of the London Missionary Society in Madagascar entitled them to be left alone in this work so long as they were able to perform it. (Cheers.) Besides, such a proceeding was in direct contravention of the report made by the Bishop of Mauritius, made at the instance of the Church Missionary and Gospel Propagation Societies; who declared that his very soul was moved and rejoiced by what he saw as the result of the labours of previous years. What he advised was that the other societies should take the distant parts of the island, where the light of the Gospel had not penetrated, and leave the capital to the London Missionary Society. (Hear, hear.) And that, he understood, the two societies had agreed to. (Hear, hear.) And yet a new society was proposed. He was sorry to see the names of a great number of dignitaries appended to the scheme; but he honestly believed they were in complete ignorance of the real state of things in Madagascar; for otherwise it was most unlikely that they would any more come forward to disturb the operations of this noble body than they would think of upsetting the Church of England and spreading disorder in every one of the parishes. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) He was afraid, also, that if this project were set on foot it would be very mischievous to missions in general, which were now conducted in harmony and with a recognised spirit of courtesy. But set up this species of rivalry, and there would arise a civil war amongst missionaries that might be ten times worse in its consequences than the civil war in America. He did hope that the parties would seriously reconsider the matter, and not allow the project to go one step further. (Cheers.) A spirit of selfishness and of mean aggrandisement must not be suffered to interfere with the great and glorious work of the London Missionary Society in Madagascar. He earnestly prayed that the blessing of the Most High might continue to rest on all their endeavours, and that as they had sown the seed they might reap the harvest. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. S. MARTIN, of Westminster, moved the first resolution, as follows:—

That this meeting gratefully and reverentially acknowledges the special providence and abundant mercy of God in the origin and history of the mission churches in Madagascar: to his praise it ascribes the faith and energy of those devoted evangelists by whose unwearied zeal and cheerful self-sacrifice the gross darkness of superstition and sin was first penetrated, and the light of knowledge and salvation widely diffused: and to his Divine presence, and the living power of the Holy Spirit, the meeting also exclusively attributes the preservation and large increase of the native churches during a quarter of a century of cruel and relentless persecution, in which thousands

of believers were doomed to slavery, subjected to torture, and condemned to death.

They had met, he said, for no novel object. To die for the Lord Jesus was almost as ancient as the Saviour's own death. Words which he spake while on earth, which he addressed to his first disciples, and with which they became perfectly familiar, made them feel the possibility, at least, of their being hated and betrayed and afflicted and killed for His blessed Name's sake. The warning was like the darkness that precedes the storm, like the shadow that foretells some moving object. The loving Christians heard or read of being hated, afflicted, killed for their Master's sake. Then they thought of it, then they imagined it, then they trembled before it; and at length the strange words of Jesus were translated into stern and patent facts. "The precious blood of Christ" had scarcely ceased to flow from his own broken heart before the blood of his martyr Stephen was shed; and ever since the shedding of that young deacon's blood, wherever the Gospel had been first preached, or wherever another Gospel has been denounced as an accursed thing, faithful martyrs have almost invariably been found. It was no new thing, therefore, to die for the faith. Nor was it new to honour those who had endured even to the martyr's death. The common instincts of our nature moved us to honour all who endure hardship for a good cause, who devote themselves to the defence and service of others. But blended with this common instinct there was a higher and nobler impulse felt by Christians when they remembered those who had resisted unto blood, striving against error and sin; and instead of thinking it strange that the primitive Christians kept as religious festivals the days of their martyrs' final sufferings, and built churches where the martyrs spilt their blood or slept in peace, we should rather think it strange that the Protestants of this age have almost forgotten that they are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses. (Hear, hear.) Ambrose of Milan expressed the feeling of sympathy we should cherish when he penned that well-known line, "The noble army of martyrs praise Thee." (Hear, hear.) The martyrs, they are the glory of our Lebanon; the excellency of our Carmel and Sharon; the most fragrant flowers in our garden; the most majestic and fruitful trees in our orchard. The martyrs, they are the passion-flowers spreading over church walls, blood-red roses, palm trees, upright, yet bearing precious fruit; cedars that with outspread branches give a blessed shade, while they stand immovable before the strength of the storm. (Cheers.) Well did the Greeks call those who shed their blood for Christ martyrs. They are witnesses, whose voice is unmistakeably distinct, whose tunes are supremely rich, whose faces shine as the faces of angels; whose silver trumpet voice penetrates us, whose broad deep utterance subdues us, whose presence amongst us is like the oak of the parasite, in whose courage, when we see them, we become bold, and in whose strength we become strong. In speaking thus he was advocating no superstitious reverence or idolatrous homage. To echo the well-known sentiment of the church in Smyrna, where Polycarp was slain, the foes of the Christians urged the judges to prevent their obtaining the body lest they should worship the martyr as they had worshipped Christ, —the disciples replied "No one can never forsake Christ, nor worship any other; but we love the martyrs as the disciples and followers of the Lord, for the great affection which even to the shedding of their blood they have shown to our Master and Lord." Nothing we could do in recognition of the martyrs could be wrong if what we did was done unto Christ. So long as the martyr is a crystal through which we can see Christ, a mirror in which we can look on Christ, a step to the throne where Christ sits, there was no danger of any excess of reverence and esteem. The martyrs of Madagascar had several claims to our devout recognition. Their country was much like our own; and the Christians had displayed the possession of qualities of mind and heart of the highest kind. They had not suffered, clad in the scarlet of ostentation, but clothed in the white raiment of child-like simplicity. (Hear, hear.) They had endured with a fortitude which an old Roman would have honoured, and with a heroism of a kind that a Greek would have worshipped. The Christian missionary went thither to lift up the degraded and to place them on their feet, and some of those who have been aroused and elevated had given their blood in return for the service of the cause. Could there be a hesitation, therefore, to carry on the work? It might be asked, Why did you lift up these prostrate ones unless it is your intention to increase the light till the whole should be included; until, turning to the millions of Madagascar, you can say, "You hath he quickened who were dead in trespasses and sins?" (Cheers.) Both money and men were required, and only let the churches be furnished with sound information, and so become really interested in the work, and there would be no lack, either of agents or of means. The origin and the history of the mission, as well as the example of the first missionaries, and then the martyrdom of many of the confessors, showed the work to be of God. Fifty years ago the voice said, "Sow, plant." Twenty-five years ago the voice said to the Malagasy Christians, "Water this plantation with your tears, water this seed with your blood." It was winter when the voice said, "Sow," but in spite of darkness and cold you went forth bearing precious seed. It was early spring when the voice said, "Water," but in spite of storm, and wind, and tempest, the work was done. It is summer now that the voice saith, "Reap." The winter is over and gone; sweet peace reigns on hill and dale; the sunshine arrays the island in a vesture of gold. Then go and reap, not so much as a duty as a hallowed privilege. Reap singing, reap shouting, and let the shout be, "The blood of the martyrs is still the seed of the Church." (Loud cheers.) Mr. Martin concluded by moving the resolution.

The Rev. W.M. ARTHUR, of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, said he did not know that he had ever felt so much honoured as in being permitted to second this resolution. Mr. Martin had ventured upon the statement that the meeting did not possess the charm of novelty. That was true in one sense; but there was another sense in which such a meeting was entirely new. The present century might be called the greatest missionary age since apostolic days, but the amount of martyrdom had not been very great. While sitting upon missionary platforms he had often listened with real pain to hear what was called "sacrifice," which amounted only to the giving up of a son or a daughter to the missionary work. There was no sacrifice in this, because any man of spirit would leave home and proceed to other lands

for the sake of the military or naval profession, maritime discovery, or for the purpose of making a fortune. There had been a greater exposure of life and outlay of money in that useless attempt to discover the North-west passage than had been given by the Church in modern times for the enlightenment of the world by the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To read of the martyrdoms in Madagascar really amounted to a new sensation. In that excellent little book, "Madagascar, its Missions and its Martyrs," we saw the wonderful way in which God had been pleased to reproduce in a race which was despised, the loftiest features of the Divine ideal of Christianity—manly, but meek—learning all things, hoping all things, enduring all things; a Christianity never failing, but constant in the midst of tortures and agonies; praying and singing at the stake, and beaming with the hope of heaven. God had given the church back some of the brightest pages of early Christian history in the records of Madagascar, and had thus exalted the poor African race. If their story had been told in Athens it would have been preserved in our classical books, and it would even now be preserved and read when the classics and Greece would have been forgotten. (Cheers.) He quite appreciated the statement in the report that the memorial churches would not be elaborate or ornamental, but thought they ought to have spires, which should attract the notice of every stranger to the capital. Persons connected with all the missionary societies would, he believed, deeply feel the propriety of the remarks of his lordship with reference to the attempt about to be made to interfere with the labours of the London Missionary Society. It was ungenerous, and would lead to mischief, especially if the new Bishop should partake of the sentiments of his Lordship of Natal, who thought it was as well to have a Bible that we did not believe as one that we did believe. Such a project as that contemplated was one, he believed, which God would not bless, and which man could not approve. (Cheers.) Of course the proposed churches would be built, and he did not think that the sum named was large enough to accomplish the object in a manner that could be desired. He was not of opinion, however, that the churches in England ought to do everything, being a decided advocate for exerting native Christians to put forth their own utmost endeavours for the building of places of worship and the support of the ministry. But this, of course, could not be done so long as ministers were all foreigners. He cordially seconded the motion.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.
The Rev. W. B. MACKENZIE, M.A., of Islington, moved:

That this meeting recognises with joy and gratitude the omnipotence and grace of God in the wonderful deliverance wrought for his suffering people in Madagascar by the accession of Radama II. to the throne of that country, and in the happiness and freedom secured to all his subjects by the just and benevolent policy of his Government. The meeting most heartily rejoices in the number of native Christians both in the capital and in distant districts of the country,—and in the simplicity of the faith and order of the native churches; it commends to the Divine blessing the Rev. William Ellis, with the band of labourers who, during the past year, have become his associates; and it cordially approves the resolution of the directors to send forth additional missionaries at the earliest practicable period. The meeting also specially pledges itself to sustain the appeal for the funds necessary for the erection of four memorial churches in the city of Antananarivo; and, finally, it commends the entire mission in Madagascar to the fraternal sympathy and fervent prayers of all Evangelical Protestant churches in Britain and throughout the world. He said he felt it to be really a great honour to take part in the present meeting. He fully concurred in the sentiments of the resolution, for the grace of God was certainly manifested in the work at Madagascar in a remarkable degree, and especially in the accession to the throne of Radama II., whose life had been often imperilled, and against whose assumption of the Crown there had been a strong opposition by the heathen party. It was delightful to hear of his large-heartedness and of the wisdom that marked his character, leading him, as the very first act of his reign, to proclaim entire civil and religious liberty. But in addition to this the King was manifestly influenced by genuine religious principle, and thus he had set his subjects the noble example of regular attendance upon the preaching of the Gospel. There was much reason, also, to glorify God in relation to the people themselves. One thing must have struck every person acquainted with the progress of the truth in Madagascar, namely, the absence of every prominent human agency. There was not one who could be called the Apostle of Madagascar; not one who bore the same relation to that island as Mr. Williams had to the islands of the South Seas. The work had been accomplished simply by the Bible. (Hear, hear.) It was perfectly wonderful to see to what an extract the blessing of God had accompanied the reading of his Word, realising most blessedly the promise. "My word shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish the purpose whereunto I sent it." He should go away from the meeting with the sentiment more deeply engraven on his heart than ever—"I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: it is the power of God to salvation to every one that believeth." (Cheers.)

The Rev. Dr. MACFARLANE, in seconding the resolution, assured the friends of the London Missionary Society of the deep interest felt in the Madagascar mission by the churches in Scotland, and observed that two great truths were illustrated in a remarkable manner in the history of that mission—the power of principle and the power of redeeming love.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. THOMAS BARNES, M.P., moved:

That the sincere and respectful thanks of this meeting be hereby presented to the Right Honourable the Earl of Shaftesbury, K.G., for his renewed kindness in presiding on the occasion, and for his efficient services in conducting the proceedings of the meeting.

Such a resolution, he said, must command itself so entirely to the meeting that he need not say a word in its support. Personally, however, he felt under great obligation to his lordship for the service he had now rendered. This was not the first occasion on which he had aided the society, and doubtless it would not be the last, seeing that he was always ready to assist every good work.

Mr. JOHN KEMPE WELSH having seconded the resolution, it was cordially adopted.

Lord SHAPESBURY, in returning thanks, said it would always give him pleasure to do anything he could to serve the London Missionary Society, for it was an admirable, a noble, and a most blessed association. He must confess to have been essentially benefited by what

he had heard in the course of the evening, and when silly, coxcombical, ignorant, and presumptuous persons presumed to nibble at the outskirts of the Holy Scriptures, let them be answered by quoting the mighty miracles of the Word of God in the Island of Madagascar. (Cheers.)

The Doxology was then sung, and the Rev. P. Labro closed the proceedings with prayer.

FORTY-FIVE YEARS A SLAVE.

The chronicles of the American Anti-Slavery Society abound in stories of free mulattoes, and occasionally of white people, who have been kidnapped and sold away into slavery, and the records of the New Orleans courts bear testimony that such iniquities are not only possible but real events. Many well-authenticated cases of the kind are described by Mr. Olmstead in "Our Slave States," in which also are given several advertisements copied from Southern papers describing the characters of fugitive girls, who are spoken of as undistinguishable from whites, and claiming to be free. The readers of the *Daily News* are not likely soon to forget a narrative recently given of the circumstances attending the decease of a gentleman of position in New Orleans, who had married in fact, though not possible in point of law, a quadroon, and died suddenly, leaving his affairs involved. Owing to his having neglected the proper precautions, his creditors, to whom only a small balance was due, were able by law to seize his three lovely and accomplished daughters, perfectly white. These young ladies "never ate, nor slept, nor quitted their hold of each other till they were parted for ever. They sat on the floor, praying for death, till the morning when they were taken into the New Orleans slave-market, and there sold separately, to subserve the purposes of Mr. Roebuck's gentlemen."

A remarkable case, different in its details from the above, but equally illustrating the atrocities that are possible under the social system in the Southern States, has been brought under our notice by an American correspondent, the authenticity of which has been vouched for by the *New York Times*, and other trustworthy newspapers. The story goes back to the beginning of the present century. About 1812, a Spanish slaver shipped a cargo of negroes on the African coast, among who was a boy named Tallen. The vessel was captured by an English brig-of-war, and eventually Tallen, under the name of "John Bull," was shipped as cabin-boy at Demerara on board the Peacock, an English brig-of-war. During the war with the United States this vessel was attacked and sunk by the Hornet, an American war-vessel, off the Spanish Main. Those who were saved were carried into New York, except "Bull," and another coloured man, who were conveyed to Savannah, in Georgia. At this port the hero of our story was left in charge of Judge Charlton, of Savannah, till his captor, Lieut. Harrison, should want him in Washington. Subsequently, the Judge wrote word that his charge had died, changed his name to Dimmock Charlton after himself, and then sold him away to a French tailor, who took him away to Augusta, Ga. We now quote the narrative in the *New York Times* as taken from Charlton's own lips:—

Thirteen months later he sold him to Captain Dubois, who was commander of the Pulaski at the time of her wreck. At that time he commanded the steamer Samuel Howard, but was building the General Washington, to run between Savannah and Augusta, and bought Dimmock to go on board of her as steward. After living with Captain Dubois two years, the latter sold him to Captain Davidson, of Savannah, who, in turn, sold him to one William Robinson, of the same city. Dimmock's superior intelligence showed him that by hiring his time of his master, and working for himself, he could save money to purchase back the freedom of which he had been robbed. He formed his plans accordingly, and put them in execution, finding employment as a superintending stevedore, and earning liberal wages in loading cotton for export, at which he seems to have been very successful. He arranged with Robinson to purchase himself at the price of 800 dols. This he soon saved by hard work and economy, paid the entire sum in cash, and was then immediately sent to jail and kept there until his cruel master had found a purchaser to take him off his hands.

His next master proved to be James Carr, then and now employed in the Planters' Bank of Savannah. Dimmock ventured to express to Carr the hope that he would not serve him as Robinson had, and related how villainously he had been used by him. Carr replied that Robinson was a d—d scoundrel, but that he would deal justly with him. Thus encouraged, Dimmock again hired his time, and proceeded to toil once more for liberty, agreeing with Carr that he should have the privilege of purchasing himself at the price which was paid to Robinson, which he supposed was 700 dols. At the time of his purchase by Robinson, he carried the latter 300 dols., and four months later gave him 400 dols. more. Subsequently, he ascertained from Robinson that all Carr paid him was 450 dols. Thus was the poor fellow again swindled out of the gold for which he had toiled so faithfully.

In the meantime he had married a slave-woman (a free woman of Nassau, Providence Isle, in the West Indies, enslaved by T. Pratt, senior, who took her and her parents and sisters to Savannah), by whom he had two daughters. These all belonged to Mr. Pratt, of Savannah, of whom Dimmock speaks very gratefully. Pratt finding that he would be compelled to sell his servants, told Dimmock, and said he would sell them reasonably to enable him to get some one to buy them who would not send them off. Not having yet learned that his master had deceived him, Dimmock went to Carr, told him the case, and solicited his aid to buy his wife and children, telling him that he had some little money—that it would probably cost 2,000 dols. to make the purchase, and that he would soon give him the balance. At this time he had 1,500 dols., earned in stevedoring, hid away dollar by dollar in a tin case

buried in the earth. This sum he carried to Carr, who purchased the family.

After some time, by representations to Charlton's wife, Carr caused a separation between the parties; sold the father to a Mr. Hudson, the wife to a Mr. Cummings, and the children—each to a different purchaser. Charlton now thought it time to assert his claim to freedom as a British subject, and told his master, who forthwith sent him to a trader for sale. Not being considered a safe chattel, he became in succession the property of several more owners, but though he repeatedly claimed the protection of the British Consul at Savannah, that functionary, himself a slaveowner, refused to interfere on his behalf. His last master was a Mr. B. Garman, who bought him for 550 dollars, and honestly permitted him to purchase himself; and, at length, after forty-five years of slavery, during which he had been repeatedly cow-hid, and had four times purchased his freedom, he sailed for New York, in which city he is still living.

After a short time, learning that one of his grandchildren, a little girl six years of age, had been brought into the State of New York, by the Misses Kerr, sisters of one of his former masters, Charlton, with the aid of kind friends, made application to the Judge of the county of Winchester, who, after hearing the case in full, ordered the child to be delivered over to her grandfather. She has since been in the hands of benevolent friends, who have provided for her education.

At the examination, one of the Misses Kerr corroborated in many particulars the strange story of Charlton, and in 1857, when he was in England to establish his identity, an aged seaman in Greenwich Hospital, who was serving on board the Peacock when she was captured, testified to the truth of the earlier facts of Charlton's career. Since that time Charlton has been in New York and Philadelphia striving to obtain means to redeem his wife, children and grandchildren from slavery, but does not appear to have succeeded; and the British consul could give him no help "because the case had laid so long." Well known persons in New York and Philadelphia give him a character for honesty, industry, and sobriety; and our correspondent states that he is a Christian, and was for thirty years a member of the Baptist Church in Savannah. The case has been laid before Earl Russell, but we greatly fear that his lordship, under present circumstances, may be indisposed to take any steps to redeem Charlton's family from slavery, though the assurance is given, by those who ought to know, that they "may be ransomed at fair prices" from their respective owners.

Some of the particulars of this remarkable narrative have been denied in the Savannah papers by those who had an interest in its disavowal. But in New York they substantially failed to make good their case, though they had the best reason for endeavouring to prove its truth. It affords striking proof how utterly destructive is slavery of all sense of honour and every dictate of honesty. From the judge downwards these Southern persons thought nothing of kidnapping a coloured man, selling him by auction, though believed to be free, and afterwards disposing of his wife and family, and consigning them to hopeless slavery. At the age of three-score this poor coloured and intelligent African, after a life of singular vicissitudes, finds himself alone in the world; and those who should have been the comfort of his declining years separated from him by an impassable gulf, and treated as cattle that they may become a source of profit or worse to slave-owners, who pretend to find a warrant for such atrocities in the word of God. In this story we obtain a glimpse of that hideous and demoralising social system, on which a nation is being consolidated in the name of freedom—the prospect of which last week excited the greatest enthusiasm among the gentlemen assembled at a banquet given by the Lord Mayor of London in honour of Mr. Mason, the author of the atrocious Fugitive Slave Law.

THE EMANCIPATION MOVEMENT.

Mr. Adams, the United States Minister, has forwarded to Manchester a reply from Mr. Lincoln, in answer to an address from the working men of Manchester. He says:—A conscientious purpose to maintain and preserve at once the Constitution and the integrity of the Federal Republic has been the key to all the measures pursued by his administration. "I know," he goes on, "and deeply deplore, the sufferings which the working men at Manchester, and in all Europe, are called to endure in this crisis. It has been often and studiously represented that the attempt to overthrow this Government, which was built upon the foundation of human rights, and to substitute for it one which should rest exclusively on the basis of human slavery, was likely to obtain the favour of Europe. Through the action of our disloyal citizens, the working men of Europe have been subjected to a severe trial, for the purpose of forcing their sanction to that attempt. Under these circumstances, I cannot but regard your decisive utterances upon the question as an instance of sublime Christian heroism, which has not been surpassed in any age or in any country."

A public meeting to support the emancipation policy of the American Government was held on Wednesday evening in the Rev. C. Stove's chapel, Commercial-road, Whitechapel. Mr. G. Gowland presided. After a brief speech from the Chairman, the Rev. C. Stove proposed a resolution strongly condemning slavery and the slave-trade, asserting that European intervention in the American struggle

would be impolitic, and approving heartily of the action of the Emancipation Society. Mr. Stove said the arguments in favour of slavery had now assumed a gospelised form, and at the present time there were men who had the effrontery to say that slavery was supported by the Bible. He would admit that the Scriptures recognised in the Jewish times a condition of subordinate servitude, but there was nothing in that servitude which resembled the ingredients of which African slavery was made up. No; African slavery was altogether without precedent. It was the belief of many persons that the slave-trade was abolished, but such unhappily was not the case. The rev. gentleman then expressed the pleasure he felt at the great success which had attended the demonstration recently held in Exeter Hall. He next related several interesting incidents in the history of the agitation for the abolition of slavery in our colonies, and concluded by eloquently enforcing the duty of supporting the sacred cause of freedom. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Washington Willis, in a speech which was very cordially received, seconded the resolution, and it was carried unanimously. Mr. Stove then read a letter which it was proposed to send from his congregation to the churches in America, and a resolution approving of the letter and authorising its transmission was moved by Mr. Willis, seconded by Mr. Gathweite, and unanimously agreed to.

On Thursday evening a public meeting on the subject of American slavery was held in the Town-hall, Tonbridge, Mr. S. Scott, of Southborough, in the chair. Professor Allen, a coloured paty of Virginia, in a most impressive speech, brought vividly before the meeting, as an eye-witness, the working of slavery in the rebel States, and was repeatedly interrupted by the manifestations of the feelings of the audience. The hall was densely crowded, and on the platform were the Rev. W. Lennox and the Rev. C. Winter. The following resolution was passed unanimously:—"That the deep sympathy of this meeting be most respectfully tendered to President Lincoln, in the solemn hope that it may contribute towards the supporting of his hands, whilst grappling with an unnatural rebellion, and thereby advancing the cause of freedom, order, justice, constitutional government, and religion throughout the world." The meeting was concluded with the National Anthem.

At Bolton, last week, a public meeting was held in the Temperance Hall, and attended by upwards of a thousand persons. A resolution was proposed denouncing secession and repelling "with indignation the recognition of any Government that thus violates the first principles of political justice, or institutions, the object of which is the violation of every moral law and an insult to the civilised world." An amendment was moved:—"That this meeting does not sympathise with President Lincoln nor his proclamation, believing that his policy is purely a military necessity to maintain the Union at any cost, and not the welfare of the negro." The Rev. G. T. McGregor, of Farnth, strongly opposed the amendment, and was most vociferously applauded. The amendment obtained only about 100 supporters, and the resolution was carried amid great applause.

A densely-crowded meeting was held on Thursday in the Congregational Church, Plaistow, to welcome the Rev. Sella Martin, a coloured minister from Boston, U.S., formerly a slave, who was lately enabled, by the help of friends in England, to purchase his sister and children from their grandfather, a Georgian clergyman. Among the speakers were the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel (who showed the direct interest which working men all over the world have in the great question which is now raised by the contest in America), and the Rev. John Curwen. The Rev. Sella Martin was received with great enthusiasm. Although weakened by protracted illness in America, he spoke with nearly all his old energy and fire, and with much of his natural humour. In speaking of the "gains of the year" during his absence from England, he referred to the manner in which anti-slavery feeling in England had strengthened the hands of the anti-slavery and Republican party in America. The following resolution was adopted:—"That the chairman be requested to write to the Prime Minister of our Queen earnestly entreating him to put in force, with the utmost vigilance, the law of England against such ships as the Alabama."

An able and highly interesting lecture on "The African Race" was delivered in the Wesleyan Church, Cobham, on the 10th inst., by Professor Allen, a coloured Virginian. The lecturer, in the course of his observations, referred to the origin and early history of the African race, their characteristics, especially their gentle, loving, and forgiving spirit, entitling them to the epithet of "blameless" applied by Homer to their Ethiopian ancestors. Reference was made also to their national gaiety and groll humour, in illustration of which interesting incidents were given. The capacity of the African for high intellectual culture was nobly vindicated, and his musical and poetical powers well illustrated. Mr. Allen, during his lecture, alluded to the religiousness of the negro, the benign influence of Christianity on his impulsive nature, and concluded his able dissertation by an ardent recognition of the powerful influence of the Christian ministry and of religious bodies in this country generally, in promoting the abolition of slavery. An overflowing audience was present on the occasion; and at the close of the lecture a cordial vote of thanks was tendered to Professor Allen for its delivery.

The Great Eastern, previous to her next voyage, will be placed on a gridiron, made specially for her, off the Cheshire shore of the Mersey.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

CAMBRIDGE.—This election resulted on Wednesday in the return of Mr. Powell. At the declaration on the following day the numbers were declared to be:

Powell	708
Fawcett	627
Majority for Powell	81

Mr. Powell returned thanks amid the acclamations of his supporters, and Mr. Fawcett, who followed, expressed himself, though defeated, not disheartened, and declared his intention of again presenting himself as a candidate at the next vacancy.

DEVONPORT.—The polling for this borough took place on Thursday. Mr. Ferrand (Tory) took the lead from the first, and was returned by a majority of 30. 2,438 voters, out of a constituency of 3,722, went to the poll, so that the contest was keen and close.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.—The vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. E. Ball was filled up on Saturday. Lord George Manners was elected without opposition. The noble lord is a Conservative, and takes the seat of a gentleman of the same politics, who, however, voted for the abolition of Church-rates.

OUR CRIMINAL CLASSES.

In a letter to the editor of the *Daily Telegraph*, Mr. J. F. Stanford, a Middlesex magistrate, says:—There is still great difficulty in obtaining satisfactory data on crime and criminals. The judicial returns are, instead of being prepared under one system for the United Kingdom, only for England and Wales; those for Ireland and Scotland being very meagre, and differently tabulated. The English judicial statistics, though of late years (the last five) much improved upon the old system, are still very defective. The returns made by the police through England and Wales of the "known dangerous classes at large," or of persons following crime habitually, are so evidently incorrect, that I feel it my duty to make a representation to the Home-office on the subject, as it is upon this return that Sir Joshua Jebb materially grounds his defence of "the penal servitude and ticket-of-leave system." I particularly beg to draw attention to the startling fact, that in one year, the year 1861, four hundred and seventy-nine thousand seven hundred and twenty-three crimes and offences were committed in the United Kingdom, out of which followed three hundred and eight thousand one hundred and fifteen convictions. This shows pretty clearly something wrong in our body politic, when, in one year, nearly a sixtieth part of our entire population has been convicted of offences.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS OF CRIME AND CRIMINALS FOR 1861, PREPARED AND WORKED OUT BY J. F. STANFORD, ESQ., M.A., F.R.S.

N.B. The population of the United Kingdom in 1861 was 29,036,508, and the number of paupers relieved in 1861 was 945,269, at a cost of 5,778,943L for England and Wales; 164,000 paupers in Ireland, at a cost of 584,348L; and the number for Scotland, 97,000, at a cost of 618,000L.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Indictable offences committed	50,809
Persons apprehended	29,174
Persons tried	18,326
Persons convicted	13,879
Offences determined summarily	394,717
Convictions	263,200

IRELAND.

Persons tried in Ireland at sessions and assizes	5,586
Persons tried in Ireland at sessions and assizes, convicted	3,271
Summary convictions	18,352
Summary convictions for drunkenness	6,972

SCOTLAND.

Persons charged with offences	3,287
Persons charged with offences, convicted	2,441

Grand total crimes and offences
 479,723 |

Grand total of convictions
 308,115 |

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Convicts in prison in 1861	10,876
Convicts discharged in 1861	3,753
Convicts discharged on tickets-of-leave	1,645
Convicts discharged, expires	1,330
Convicts discharged, sent to West Australia	610
Prisoners in county and borough gaols	147,971
Prisoners discharged	130,571

Prisoners in reformatories, schools of industry, &c.

Prisoners in reformatories, schools of industry, &c., discharged	1,298
Prisoners in confinement	28,649

Known predators at large

Police

Cost of police (alone)

Cost of gaols, prisons, prosecutions, police, &c.

£1,579,200

£2,768,500

Postscript.

Wednesday, Feb. 18, 1863.

CONTINENTAL NEWS.

Telegrams from Cracow state that the Russian troops have defeated a body of insurgents, but do not give any details which would enable us to conjecture what the importance of the defeat may be. It is also stated that several columns of Russian troops are marching against the insurrectionary forces which are under the command of Langiewicz. The Imperial Government has proclaimed a state of siege in all the towns and districts of the Governments of Wilno and Grodno, where it had not already existed. Garibaldi has published an address to the Poles, expressing his intense sympathy with their cause, his hopes for its success, and his desire that Italy,

or at least Italians, should do something to aid Poland in her struggle. Young Poles continue to leave in great numbers the foreign towns where they had been residing, and to seek the scene of the rebellion.

The *Débats* and *Sidcle* of yesterday, mentioning the fact that 30,000 Russians have just crossed into Poland through the Prussian territory, and that those who have been put to flight by the insurgents have been rearmed by the Prussian authorities, and sent back, call upon England and France to interpose.

The Liberal journals of Prussia protest against the conduct of their Government in this matter.

Austria continues to preserve an impassive and almost indifferent attitude. The Cabinet of Vienna are resolved, it is said, to adhere only to the conventions already in existence. The Austrian journals declare that Prussia has flagrantly violated the laws of neutrality.

The Poles hope much, it is stated in letters from Warsaw, from a revolution in Russia.

A letter from Heidelberg (Grand Duchy of Bavaria), in the *Swabian Mercury*, states that the greater part of the Polish students at the university of that town have disappeared since the late events. The same has taken place at the University of Berlin.

The Vienna papers announce that the leaders of the Venetian revolutionary committee have been discovered by the police. They have been arrested, and a prosecution has been commenced against them.

Yesterday the King of the Belgians drove through the streets of Brussels in his carriage. His Majesty appeared to be in good health.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, Earl RUSSELL gave some explanations, called forth by Earl Derby's speech on a previous evening, respecting our dispute with Brazil.

The LORD CHANCELLOR brought up a Royal message relating to a provision for the Prince of Wales, and the House voted an address on the subject.

The Marquis of NORMANBY made the speech against the Italian Government of which he had given notice. Earl RUSSELL replied to it; the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH spoke, and the House adjourned.

In the House of Commons, Lord PALMERSTON replied to the questions of Mr. Bentinck and Mr. S. Fitzgerald, about the blockade of Charleston and the Ionian Islands. He also brought up a message from the Queen, concerning a provision for the Prince of Wales. He also gave notice that on Thursday he would make a motion on the subject.

An interesting discussion, introduced by Mr. S. FITZGERALD, followed on the subject of our commercial treaties; Mr. W. E. Forster, Mr. Layard, Mr. Disraeli, and Mr. Milner Gibson, being the chief speakers.

Mr. HORSEFALL obtained the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the practicability of consolidating the Boards of Inland Revenue and Customs.

Sir G. GREY obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to the religious instruction of prisoners in county and borough prisons in England and Scotland, and which enables prisoners to be more freely visited by the ministers of their own religion.

After a strong protest by Mr. WHALLEY against a measure in which he discerned the distinct leanings of Roman Catholic parentage, and after some remarks by Mr. Maguire and Sir G. Grey in favour of the bill, and Mr. Newdegate and Mr. Serjeant Pigott against it, leave was given to bring in the bill.

Mr. M. GIBSON obtained the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the system of private acts legislation.

The other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned.

RECEPTION OF THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA IN THE CITY.—The Princess Alexandra is to be received in the City by a bevy of blooming belles—the brightest, grace-fullest, and most fascinating of the beauties of the City; and the mode of the reception and all the pretty details belonging to it, will be immediately arranged under the auspices of a committee of ladies.—*City Press*.

THE HOUSEHOLD OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.—BUCKINGHAM PALACE, Feb. 16.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has been pleased to make the following appointments in his household:—To be Honorary Chaplains—The Rev. Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, D.D., Canon of Christ Church, Oxford; the Rev. Charles Kingsley, M.A.; the Rev. Henry Mildred Birch, M.A., and the Rev. Charles Ford Taver, M.A. To be Physicians in Ordinary—William Jenner, Esq., M.D., and Edward Sieveking, Esq., M.D. To be surgeons in Ordinary—James Paget, Esq., and George Pollock, Esq. To be Surgeon Extraordinary—John Minter, Esq., R.N., M.D., F.R.C.S. To be Honorary Physicians—Thomas King Chambers, Esq., M.D.; William Henry Asland, Esq., M.D.; and Alexander Armstrong, Esq., M.D., R.N.

The Sacred Congregation has just issued its condemnation of *La Sorcière* and of *Il Mediatore*, the journal conducted by Professor Carlo Paasglio. He used to have more titles in the days when the Immaculate Conception was finally promulgated.

THE EMANCIPATION SOCIETY.—A meeting of the friends and supporters of the Emancipation Society is to be held in St. James's-hall this evening at seven, when Professor F. W. Newman, M.A., Rev. William Landells, of Regent's-park Chapel, and George Thompson, Esq., will address the meeting. The body of the hall and the balconies will be free.

MARK LANE—THIS DAY.

A somewhat increased supply of home-grown wheat was on sale here to-day, in fair condition. Generally speaking, the trade ruled quiet, yet prices were supported. With foreign wheat the market was well supplied. For all descriptions, there was a limited retail inquiry, but without leading to any change in the quotations, compared with Monday. Floating cargoes of grain were in slow request, at late rates. Fine barley was in request for seed at extreme currencies; otherwise, the demand ruled inactive, at barely previous quotations. The malt trade was steady, at late rates. Oats—the supply of which was small—moved off slowly, on former terms. Beans met a slow sale, yet prices were fairly maintained. The supply on offer was moderate.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.				
	Wheat	Bailey.	Malt.	Oats
English	1,010	520	120	360
Irish	—	—	—	—
Foreign	6,580	3,220	—	4,630
				8,710 bns.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A. H."—His letter has arrived too late for insertion this week.

"Cephas."—Declined.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1863.

SUMMARY.

THE approaching marriage of the Prince of Wales, while it paralyses the energies of Parliament, is the foremost question of interest throughout the country. Though the ceremony of next month will be comparatively private, all England proposes to testify its loyalty on the occasion. The 10th of March is to be, as far as possible, observed as a holiday, and banquets, volunteer displays, and illuminations, are to be the order of the day. In most places, we are glad to observe, special provision is to be made that the poorer classes may share in the general festivity. On Thursday last the Prince of Wales was publicly made free of the Fishmongers' Company, and delivered a modest and appropriate speech on the occasion. Yesterday both Houses of Parliament received formal messages from the Crown expressing confidence "that they will be ready to concur in such provision as may be judged necessary to enable her Majesty to settle an establishment for the Prince and Princess suited to their rank and dignity"; and of course an address was agreed to promising co-operation, in a form, which, though worded according to precedent, is rather too servile to be quite acceptable in these days. However, the proposed dotation will be brought forward tomorrow. It is not likely to be extravagant in amount, and the *Times* assures the public that it will be lessened on account of the considerable income which is already at the disposal of the Prince of Wales.

A special meeting was held last night at Freemasons' Hall, under the presidency of the Earl of Shaftesbury, to diffuse information as to the labours of the London Missionary Society in Madagascar, and especially to promote the erection of memorial churches in the city of Antananarivo. The fact that 6,500£ out of the 10,000£ required for that purpose has been subscribed, notwithstanding the heavy claims of Lancashire, is a striking proof of the public interest in this field of missionary labour. In a short time there will be at work in the capital of Madagascar a band of eleven missionaries, besides native pastors and catechists. It appears that the Church Missionary Society and Propagation Society, satisfied that the provision of the London Society will suffice for that city, have resolved to confine their efforts to the wide fields of ignorance and heathenism yet uncultivated throughout the island. Nevertheless, a new society is in course of formation, "under the highest ecclesiastical patronage," to send out a bishop and six missionary clergymen to Antananarivo. In the course of the proceedings Lord Shaftesbury uttered his indignant protest against this despicable rivalry, and spoke of the discredit it would bring upon the Church of England. "There was," he said, "to be a bishop, springing from what he knew not, and a body of clergy, tending to what he knew not, sent into that island, not to roam over regions of it where the Gospel had not been preached, not to carry the light of life to the heathen, but to enter the capital itself, there to encumber by an effulgence of glory the light which has been already diffused," and promote "civil war amongst missionaries." We should have thought that the discredit brought upon the Established Church by her colonial bishops

would have been sufficient to deter even the most zealous sacerdotalist from sending out a mushroom episcopal dignitary to become a firebrand in this promising field of foreign enterprise.

Mr. Mason, the Confederate envoy to this country, was among the guests of the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House on Wednesday last, and made a speech which is stated to have called forth enthusiastic cheers. The author of the infamous Fugitive Slave Law expressed his belief that the day was not far off when the relationship between the Southern Confederation and our Government would be "one of close and intimate alliance." Even the *Times* is scandalised at Mr. Mason's effrontery, and protests against the Lord Mayor's guests being accepted as the exponents of English opinion. Before this portentous Slave Power is recognised by anti-slavery England we trust there will be so strong and unanimous an expression of public opinion as will convince Mr. Mason and his colleagues that his boast of the cordial welcome he has received, from "every class of society," is a libel on the character of our countrymen.

The American news is of great interest, though not of first-rate importance. Two Confederate iron-clad gun-boats issued from Charleston harbour, drove the blockading squadron out to sea, and captured or disabled several Federal vessels. Thereupon General Beauregard proclaimed the blockade of the port as legally raised; but it will be seen from Lord Palmerston's statement last night that our Government does not endorse the sentiments of the Confederate officer. Charleston is now blockaded by a fleet of iron-clads as well as wooden vessels, and is to be immediately attacked by a formidable military and naval force. The bill for arming negro regiments has passed the House of Representatives at Washington by a majority of 83 to 54, but no slaves of loyal owners are to be enlisted. Before such troops can be made available, however, their services may not be required. The feeling in favour of peace is growing in the North, while in the West there appears to be an increasing indisposition to carry out the emancipation policy of Mr. Lincoln.

More important than the American news, in its ultimate results, is the statement that many of the slaveowners of Cuba have petitioned the Queen of Spain to adopt a system of gradual emancipation. Should this proposal be carried out, the maintenance of slavery in the Southern States of America will become very difficult, though there is not at present the slightest symptom that the Confederates intend to give up "the corner-stone" of their organisation.

New Zealand is likely to be once more a source of trouble not only to the colonists, but to the mother country. Spite of Governor Grey's conciliatory policy, the Maori movement is gaining ground among the natives, and it is said that unless 15,000 troops are sent out from England to preserve the colony from impending danger, Sir George and General Cameron will resign their positions. This is a very serious question for British taxpayers, all the more so as it holds out the prospect of many years of conflict in New Zealand.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS IN PARLIAMENT.

We have prepared our readers for the probably unexciting character of the column or two we propose to offer them weekly under the above heading. Assuredly, the Parliament of the United Kingdom seldom stoops to "sensation" proceedings, and any interest which outsiders take in its debates must be factitious, as originating in party feeling, or legitimate, as growing out of the measures undergoing consideration. Occasionally, indeed, an evening's talk, in either House, apropos of some passing event, or some turn in the foreign policy of the Government, presents strong attractions—but, happily for us, we think, party contests are not very frequent, and the predominant disposition of the British people pretty generally restricts their attention to home affairs. For the last five or six years, perhaps, they have been drawn by the magnitude and the far-reaching importance of what has been doing abroad, sometimes on the Continent of Europe, sometimes in America, from their habitual preference for domestic topics—nevertheless, there exists in the public mind an odd feeling of vacancy when the *pabulum* of their political life is mainly imported from beyond the seas. Nobody, however, looked forward to the present Session with fluttering anticipation, nor, if they did and were justified in doing so, would the first week's proceedings present many features of interest. But, we fairly own that, taking all these matters into consideration, we were yet unprepared for the *ne plus ultra* of hum-drudgery which the records of the present Parliamentary week exhibit.

The "various measures of public usefulness

and improvement" alluded to in the Royal Commissioners' speech, as the intended contribution of Her Majesty's Government to the legislation of 1863, are now, we presume, with the exception of the Budget, upon the table of the House—or if some of them have not been actually introduced, an intimation that they will be has already been given. Let us see, therefore, what we have to expect. Ireland seems to have yielded the best crop of measures. She is to have—not before she needed it—a machinery for the registration of births and deaths—aid in the drainage of her soil—and a law to compel putative fathers to support their illegitimate children. Peradventure, too, if Mr. M'Mahon succeeds, she will obtain the means of more effectually protecting her salmon fisheries. Of Scotland we have heard nothing as yet. England ought to be supremely content. The Board of Trade consent to a select committee to inquire into the mode of transacting the private business of the House, and whether and how it may be facilitated—they will also introduce a Bill to regulate the exercise of powers given by special Acts to Telegraph Companies for the construction and maintenance of their respective lines—and it is from this department, we suppose, that will come the Bill, to be first laid before the House of Lords, for preventing the pollution of rivers by the noxious vapours of alkali works. The Poor Law Board offer us a Union Relief Aid Act (1862) Continuance Bill, to prolong during another year the provisions enacted last Session to meet the sudden and overwhelming distress of the Cotton Districts. The War Office puts before us a measure to transfer the preparation of the Militia Estimate from a Committee of the Commons to the Secretary of War. The Home Office intimates a probability of its submitting a Bill for the more efficient protection of the metropolis from fires. The Board of Works is represented by two Bills—one for making a new street from the Thames Embankment at Blackfriars Bridge to the Mansion House, and the other to provide the necessary funds for that purpose, by mortgaging the metropolitan coal duties for another ten years. The Treasury, through the Chancellor of the Exchequer, favours the country with an administrative improvement of the Post-office Savings' Banks Act, an extension of credit to be allowed to maltsters, and a reduction of the Customs' Duties on cigars, snuff, and manufactured tobacco—the last measure designed to open the tobacco trade to foreign competition, to discourage smuggling, and to improve the Revenue. Possibly, we may have unwittingly left out of this enumeration some measure or measures which have escaped notice—if so, they must be very small ones. Here, then, we have, we imagine, the detailed Ministerial "bill of fare" for the Session, excluding, of course, the Estimates and the Ways and Means of 1863-4—and we appeal to our readers whether the legislative appetite of the country ought to be ravenous. The Session may fitly be designated the "Session of crumbs."

So much for actual measures—it would have been unreasonable to expect stirring debates so soon after the Parliamentary recess. The Lords, occasionally, give us, even before Easter, an evening or two of quiet, aristocratic, but instructive talk on some popular subject—but they have not done so this week. Lord Ravensworth has painted a tolerably vivid picture of the dangers to which shipping is exposed on the north-east coast of England, as an incitement to Government to construct harbours of refuge, and sink the pecuniary surplus which the Revenue will give them—but was pertinently reminded by the Duke of Somerset that artificially-constructed harbours of refuge are found to be of very questionable use in a gale of wind, very liable to get silted up, and a great temptation to ship-owners to sail any tub as long as it will float. Lord Ellenborough has made the most of an alleged grievance arising to certain military officers out of the amalgamation of the Indian with the British army—but we fear, the subject is far too technical to induce many of our readers to go through his speech and the Duke of Argyll's reply.

The Commons have not indulged much in debate. The salmon fisheries of Ireland,—neither an uninteresting, nor, looked at in all its bearings on the food prospects of the people, an unimportant topic,—occupied the Wednesday morning's sitting. Mr. Villiers' Union Relief Aid Act (1862) Continuance Bill formed the basis of a useful discussion on the Lancashire and Cheshire distress, on what has already been done to meet it, and what will probably have to be done. On the whole, the future wears a gloomy aspect. On Friday, an amendment was moved to the Government motion for going into Committee of Supply, and—is it an omen of what is to come?—was carried by 113 to 73 votes. It was submitted by Mr. Peacocke, in the form of an address to the Crown to exercise its powers in preventing any

inclosure of Crown lands within 15 miles of the metropolis. The object of it is unquestionably good—the form of it is impracticable. In effect, we understand, it seeks the revival of one of the prerogatives, long since obsolete, asserted by the worst monarchs of English history—William Rufus and John, and, if acted upon, would subject a large number of private landowners to the most arbitrary and capricious acts of despotic interference which any Government might see fit to sanction. In short, it was a blunder, not as to the end aimed at, but as to the mode in which it was sought, and it will probably have to be repaired. The Thames Embankment Street Bill gave rise to the usual contest between the Metropolitan Board of Works and the City Corporation, for directing improvements, but as leave only was asked to bring in the Bill, Mr. Cowper was not forced to a division.

THE LATEST ELECTORAL LOSSES.

MR. FAWCETT at Cambridge, and Sir Frederic Grey at Devonport, have been beaten by Conservative candidates. The defeat of the first is accounted for by a division among the Liberals on personal and local grounds—that of the second is mainly to be attributed to recent administrative reforms in the dockyard. Neither of the elections, it is said, and we believe it, expresses the true balance of political opinion in the borough. Cambridge has Liberal voters enough on the register to have returned Mr. Fawcett. Devonport, so far from being predominantly Conservative, is rather inclined to Radicalism. It cannot be truly inferred from the issue of either contest that there has been or is a positive reaction towards Toryism. But how is it that so many elections now-a-days are decided, and decided against the Liberals for the most part, by causes which, though easily assigned, nobody can pretend to justify? It is seldom, indeed, that a Conservative majority allows itself to be ousted from its position of superiority by personal or local squabbles. Why is it that the Liberals are found so ready to merge public objects in private and petty disputes? Or why is it that we so often see them yielding up their opinions and convictions as to public policy at the prompting of every grievance that may have chanced to shade their prospects or vex their temper? We suppose our venerable Premier does not disturb his serenity by such questions as these—but they are questions which the party who now support him will one day or other have to think over anxiously, in the cold shade of Opposition.

Minor and sometimes unworthy motives will infallibly exert their power upon men in whom all the higher, nobler, and more patriotic motives have ceased to be operative. The Liberals have all but ceased to have a distinctive and intelligible policy, and hence, Liberal constituencies have felt themselves free to consult the interests or passions of the hour or the place in their choice of representatives. One by one all the leading items in the old Liberal *programme* have been suffered to slip out of it. Extension of the suffrage is shelved. A re-distribution of Parliamentary seats is no more heard of. The ballot is voted a bore and treated as a farce. The Irish Church passes as a respectable institution. Free trade has got itself fully recognised. Economy is gone out of vogue. Extravagant estimates and heavy taxation are accepted as proofs of a Minister's spirit. Our talk is now of guns, and iron-sides, and volunteers, and fortifications. Put the negative items of this list alongside of the positive, and what a creed does it make? Well, but such as it is, it is the creed to uphold and practically expound which electors are asked to send men to Parliament under the designation of Liberals. Is there a ten-pound voter in any borough in the kingdom that does not feel that, this being the *programme* of the Liberals, it can matter but little whether it be represented by a Conservative-Liberal or a Liberal-Conservative? And so, as a matter of course, a choice between the one and the other is determined by quite other considerations. What a candidate will engage to do, or has done, for a railway, a dock, or a local source of revenue, whom he has offended and whom he is likely to please, whether he be a celebrity (no matter for what) or a man whose name was never heard of before, how much money he has got, and whether he is free to spend it—these, and such as these, are the considerations which turn the scale when political principles are put in abeyance by the party.

None of our readers will be likely to accuse us of too blind an attachment to Lord Palmerston. We deem the substitution of his name in the Liberal creed for a broad and vigorous policy nothing less than a great public calamity, and the noble Premier is partly responsible for it. But, as matters now stand, it cannot be denied that this is the only charm potent enough to

keep the party together. The Whigs had really done the mischief before Lord Palmerston became the sole bond of union. They never could discriminate between the welfare of the country, and the maintenance in power of the great Whig families. The principles they originally professed were always too large for their sympathies. They were ever more afraid of their friends than of their adversaries. It has been their constant aim and habit to take under their own especial jurisdiction every movement which had acquired strength enough to do without them, and to spoil it, if possible, by a compromise. One after another all the great questions of the day have been adopted by them as far as and no further than they could be made to serve as a stalking-horse to power. The Irish Establishment, Church-rates, Parliamentary Reform, Retrenchment of Expenditure, and a host of other questions which had forced their way to a foremost place in public opinion, these officious statesmen took up, mismanaged, and laid down again, as their own official aspirations and prospects were flattered by them or damaged. It is they who have eaten away the political heart and manliness of the Liberal party. It is to them we owe it that we have no longer a political motive to sway us, nor a political conscience to be consulted. They made the place for Palmerston, or he could never have reached or filled it. And now, well-nigh every constituency throughout the kingdom has ceased to know Liberalism as a power, and adheres to it mainly as a name and a habit.

The evil, no doubt, will, in course of time, work out its own cure, but it will be long in doing it, we fear. The truth is, Liberalism has to resettle itself on broad foundations, before it can elevate itself once more into national importance. It wants a faith, which, at present, it does not possess. It is little else than a mass of traditional sentiment honeycombed by scepticism—a form without life—a body without heart. We must begin again at the beginning. Whilst Lord Palmerston is at the head of affairs, we shall go on fancying that Liberalism is in the ascendant. When his name ceases to be a spell, we shall find ourselves a mere aggregate of atoms, connected by no tie, ruled by no purpose. A Tory régime will become a necessity. And we anticipate it will have a long reign. Then, perhaps, under a wintry sky, Liberal principles will strike their roots deeper into the soil, and become capable on the return of brighter days of bearing far richer and more abundant fruit. But of this we feel convinced, that our way to gain lies through loss—and that spurious Liberalism must die before genuine Liberalism can be quickened into life.

POLAND.

For a full month the partial outbreak which followed the resolution of the Russian Government to seize by wholesale the youth of the Polish middle classes has been growing in strength, till it has attained the dimensions of a national insurrection. At first the invisible Central National Committee at Warsaw, which speaks in the name of Poland, were averse to any premature movement, but the tide of events has carried them onwards, and they, in common with their countrymen, see that this may be the last opportunity of unfurling with any effect the national flag. How far the great landowners of Poland are implicated in the insurrection does not appear. The smaller proprietors have, however, thrown themselves into it, and the proclamation in which every one is declared free, and grants of land made to the agricultural population, is calculated to have great effect upon the peasantry, and has already induced numbers of them to join the movement.

From the Baltic to the Black Sea the entire population, numbered by millions, that speak the Polish tongue are in commotion, if not in arms. To the qualities which have ever distinguished the Poles—dauntless courage and military aptitude—is now added the energy of despair. The rebellion is as yet unorganised, but even in the meagre and distorted intelligence that comes to hand there are signs of more method and combination than were at first apparent. To avoid pitched battles with the Russian troops, fall upon their rear, cutoff detachments, break the railway communication, disarm the frontier guard, melt away before artillery, and retreat into the forests and swamps which abound in Poland, is a policy which is possible only in consequence of the unusual mildness of the winter, and can alone be ultimately successful by help from without. The insurgents hope, apparently not without some reason, that by protracting the contest they will be aided in the spring by an insurrection in Russia itself. Hence, the urgent appeals of the National Committee “to the Muscovite nation,” suffering from a common

despotism. It is certain that, for many weeks to come, all the troops and artillery that the Czar may be able to pour into Poland will be unable to subdue a foe that eludes their grasp and, with the most intimate knowledge of the country, carries on a guerrilla war. Russia may continue to possess without challenge the great fortresses, occupy Warsaw with 50,000 troops, and march her troops from point to point, but with a whole population in insurrection, animated with burning revenge for accumulated wrongs, and conscious that rebellion is the alternative to massacre and confiscation, the task of the St. Petersburg Government is one of immense difficulty and danger.

It is not alone the apprehension of a rising in Russia itself that causes disquietude to the Czar. The insurrection has spread to Lithuania and Ruthenia. The South-Eastern Provinces bordering on Russia proper are in arms, and the trumpet-call of the National Committee is gathering together the bands of emigrants, from Paris to Bucharest—many of them men of high standing, training, and military experience—who have been long living the life of exiles. Never before was the free-masonry of patriotism more remarkably exhibited in the struggles of Poland with her oppressors. In the very capital itself, though under martial law, the secret press is actively at work. Its invisible agency is all-pervading, the commands it issues are implicitly obeyed, and so well-organised are the means of communication, that, in one case, the fact of an emissary carrying despatches for the Archduke Constantine was known by the insurgents many miles off, and he was singled out and stopped in the railway-train which was carrying him to his destination.

It is manifest, also, that in the task of suppressing the rebellion provoked by their inhuman measures, the Russian Government cannot count upon the co-operation or even the sympathy of Austria. That Power, which has no interest in the maintenance of a state of things which brings Russia to her frontier, and has been more than once willing to surrender Galicia in order that the Polish kingdom may be reconstructed, has no desire to be at the cost of acting the part of policeman under the Czar. Arms and volunteers have been allowed to pass across the frontier, refugee Poles have been received, and only upon the most urgent demands of the St. Petersburg Government has the export of munitions of war been tardily forbidden. Austria washes her hands of all complicity with the design of trampling out the life of the Popish nation, and would fain see the engagements of 1815 carried out.

The King of Prussia, on the other hand, has made common cause with his brother spoiler, and has concluded a convention which is said to contain the following engagements:—“If Russian troops are forced by the insurgents to cross the frontier into Prussia they shall not be obliged to lay down their arms. Should revolutionary bands be driven across the Prussian frontier the Russian troops shall be at liberty to pursue them. On the demand of the St. Petersburg Government Prussian troops will act, either separately or in conjunction with the Russian forces, against the insurgents.” M. Von Bismarck has plainly told the Prussian Parliament that Poland is to be crushed into submission. We cannot yet believe that that assembly will submit without protest to a policy which makes their country the mere vassal of Russia, and their constitutional rights a sheer mockery. To see a nation so advanced in civilisation and anxious for freedom used as an instrument by their craven sovereign to crush with fire and sword a people whose patriotism a century of foreign domination has not abated, is a truly pitiable spectacle. The King of Prussia, by the course he is taking, is committing a crime against humanity, and it is to be hoped that our Government will indignantly protest against his assumption of the position of hangman to the Czar; and that France, the traditional friend of Polish independence, will co-operate with England in the most strenuous efforts to frustrate an act of wickedness which will cover the entire Prussian nation with dishonour.

UNE MONOMANIE RAISONNEUSE.

A phrase has just been introduced into the French language which, or the English equivalent of which, is likely to come into vogue on this side the Channel. A happy phrase thrown off in the heat of debate soon becomes common property, and lives on the tongues of men long after its author has forgotten it. We are indebted for many phrases of this kind to our abler Statesmen; and even Lord John Russell's “conspicuous for their absence,” though by no means original, and mainly perhaps for the sake of its Irish complexion, is familiar in men's mouths as any household word.

It is not indispensable, however, to the popular

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adoption of a phrase that it should be a happy or a witty one. It may simply be odd or grotesque; or it may very much owe its wide acceptance to the peculiar circumstances in which it was first uttered. Mr. Weare's "gig" is a case in point. That the test of a man's respectability should come up for discussion at a criminal trial—Thurtell's—in which all England felt an eager interest, was of itself a thing to touch the sense of humour which happily prevails among us. But when one of the witnesses virtually defined a respectable man as one who "kept a gig," it was not simply that all unconsciously he had hit off a common middle-class foible which made his words remembered; but also the fact that in a scene so tragic, which moved the hearts of men so profoundly, this brief play of unconscious wit should break through the gloom. The phrase lives in Mr. Carlyle's "gigmanity" and "gigocracy"—lives and moves to laughter to this day.

The new French phrase which we beg to introduce to our readers is of the latter of these two kinds. It is not a particularly happy one, nor one which shines with the keen sudden lustre of wit. But there is something queer and grotesque about it. It has a strange piquant flavour in the mouth. It hits off a common notion. It suggests more than it expresses. Above all it is the culminating point of a story which has a deep interest for the whole French nation—the stroke of humour in which a tragedy explodes.

The story is this:—Fourteen or fifteen years ago Republicanism was the prevailing political fashion in France. Red was all the wear. No man could secure the votes of the citizens except by professing opinions of the Republican and Socialist sort. It happened that M. Billault—now a member of the Imperial Cabinet—had a very strong desire to be elected deputy for one of the departments. He failed in the department of the *Loire Inférieure*. He failed in the department of *Saône et Loire*. With unabated ardour he turned to the department of the *Haute Vienne*. Here a certain M. Sandon—a distinguished lawyer—had no little influence over "the most sweet voices" and votes of the electors. Him, therefore, M. Billault resolved to court, and them through him. He succeeded. M. Billault and M. Sandon became fast friends, confidants, correspondents. In this correspondence M. Billault is said to have given expression to Republican views of the reddest—reddening, in fact, into purple. M. Sandon retains these red letters; and, not being an Imperialist nor having any great love for Imperialists such as M. Billault, speaking minister for M. Drouyn de Lhuys—is not indisposed to oblige the curious with a sight of them. Those who read are immensely gratified no doubt; but M. Billault is by no means gratified that they should read them. His modesty forbids him to aspire to the fame of letters, or, if not his modesty, his prudence. The Emperor hates red—like a bull; and his Ministers take some pains to 'ware horns. M. Sandon has, therefore, had to pay very dearly for M. Billault's early indiscretion. He has been arrested fourteen times in the space of two years. He has been assaulted by the police; he has been thrust into the convict's van; his terms of imprisonment have varied from four to sixty-four days, and often the horrors of solitary confinement have been added to the disgrace and anguish of imprisonment. All this he has suffered without being guilty—without even being accused—of any offence. His only offence, indeed, is one which could hardly be put into an indictment, or for which any French judge, however servile, would venture to convict him: it is that he knows the exact worth of the Imperial Minister's political professions. At last M. Sandon turned on the merciless oppressor who, to gratify a personal animosity, had prostituted public justice, reviving the infamies of the old *lettres de cachet*. As no State functionary can be prosecuted without leave given, he formally demanded leave of the "Conseil d'Etat" to prosecute M. Billault. This demand the Council interpreted as "a contumacious denunciation" of the Minister; and for the fifteenth time M. Sandon was arrested. For sixty-nine days he lay a prisoner at Mazas. From the prison he was removed to a lunatic asylum, three doctors having been found to pronounce this gentleman—whose perfect sanity is known to all the world of Paris—to be afflicted with "une monomanie raisonneuse"—a reasoning monomania. Is it any wonder that the phrase bites the public ear? or that the quick wits of Paris point dart of satire with it which strike dangerously deep into the reputation of the Imperial Court, and rankle as with deadly poison? Coming as the crowninⁿ point of so tragical a story, meeting pent-up indignation with a jest, it stirs one into laughter of a somewhat grim and threatening kind.

Here, however, we are concerned with the phrase rather than the story. And one of the first things that strikes us in it is, that it really has a truth in

it. Poor Monsieur Sandon is pronounced a monomaniac because he uses his reason,—reason having so little to say in favour of tyranny, usurpation, injustice. But he who urges his reason beyond the bounds of its proper province, so abusing it; he who is fain to try all mysteries by the poor base standard of logic, may fairly be pitied as afflicted with "a reasoning monomania." Dr. Colenso, to quote a modern instance, must have raised an affectionate anxiety in the minds of his more observant friends. To reason working sane, it is obvious enough that the Bible is not a mathematical book; that its *differentialia*, the very things which raise it above all other books, are utterly immeasurable by the carpenter's rule or the rules of arithmetic. He who, even beneath the awful thunder crags of Sinai, lightnings at once hiding and revealing the present God—nay, who, even beneath the tragic, magnetic, redeeming Cross, can potter about with his eternal measuring rod and downcast, calculating eyes, is surely nearer neighbour—if all men were so happy as to have their rights—to the asylum than the bench. The ludicrous verdict of the French mad-doctors—which hardly veils their scorn of the tyranny which yet they serve—is no longer ludicrous, but simply true when applied to those who insist on seeing the delicate, many-hued visions of wide-eyed Imagination, the subtle, imponderable beauties of Nature, and the ineffable mysteries of the Faith, glowing with rainbow tones, in the white, dry light of Science' lamp. Brought into that light they show themselves but partially, imperfectly, untruly; all their special charm, their quickening vitality, disappears; and the reasoning monomaniac is left measuring for its grave the pale corpse from which he himself has expelled the breath and varied hues of life.

But though there be a truth in the phrase, it is not in its true sense that it will find its widest acceptance. In its original sense it will be very welcome to one or two sorts and conditions of men. People who do not themselves think are genuinely astonished that others should. Why should a man fag and wear out his brain when he gets on quite as well, perhaps better—certainly with more comfort—without it. The young gentlemen at the Circumlocution-office are no doubt sensible of a quite unaffected and genuine surprise when, wearied by some sturdy questioner, they lift up their feeble hands and cry, "Here's a fellow who wants to know, you know!" It will be no small comfort to these listless gentlemen, who—unlike the man who "always made a little poetry when he wanted it"—like to repeat, though they never originate, a clever thing, to be able to call an intrusive interrogatory visitor "a reasoning monomaniac." It will make an agreeable alternative with Lord Dundreary's "That fellah's a lunatic."

There are others, again, who did think, after a fashion, years ago, but have long given up that sort of thing. They have "made up their minds" on all subjects under the sun—made them up into neat little bundles of opinions, prejudices, &c., each duly labelled and put away in its proper pigeon-hole. It is painful to see the discomfort given to these estimable persons by the approach of a man of sceptical and inquiring mind. They know very well, despite the snug self-satisfaction which ordinarily distinguishes them, that they have not thought anything fully out; that they have taken up as their personal possession the views held by their fathers or customary with their neighbours—come into them, in fact, as they came into their property, either by inheritance or by exchange and barter. They take, and for a long while have taken, the advice of the old banker—"Live, Sir, from day to day, and don't trouble yourself." It does trouble, it discomposes and unsettles them for the day, if you call one of their truisms or falsisms in question. If you thrust your hand into a pigeon-hole, select a little bundle of neatly arranged opinions, untie it, open it, criticise its contents, you may do them a serious injury. If you tear one or two of them in pieces, and huddle the rest back in a reversed order or damaged condition, they will never forgive you. Like Rabbi David, who said of Joseph Wolff, "God have mercy on us, our son will not remain a Jew; he is always walking about and thinking, which is not natural"—they are perturbed in spirit by contact with a young all-questioning mind, and read in its inquiring thoughtfulness an omen of evil. To all such—and especially to those of them who are religious Editors and whose main function it is to "put down" free thought—we commend the phrase of the French mad-doctors. They will find it very useful. It has a weighty and a scientific sound. That youth, that sceptic, must be audacious indeed who is not quelled when once stigmatised as "a reasoning monomaniac."

THE DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

MANCHESTER, Feb. 16, 1863.

In describing the Hulme Institute for the Unemployed, I had occasion to mention the name of Mr. Birch, as one to whom that institute, and the Manchester sewing-schools, were much indebted. With Mr. Birch have been associated other men, some young like himself, and all like him filled with a desire to lessen the suffering borne by the operatives, by affording to them such help as will contribute to their intellectual and social enjoyment. I have come across an instance in which another young man has shown himself as active as Mr. Birch and his associates, but who has struck out for himself a plan of relief which has proved eminently successful, and which, I think, deserves a somewhat more detailed description than I could have given to it had I introduced it into my last letter. I shall tell the story as simply as possible, and shall leave to my reader the easy task of thinking out the lessons which it may suggest.

About the end of last August a prayer-meeting was held in some part of London, at which some special prayer was offered for Lancashire, and at the close of the meeting a collection was made in aid of the people whose sufferings had moved the sympathies of those who prayed. A few hundreds of pounds were collected; and a suggestion was made that it would be well if some of the gentlemen present could come down and see for themselves what the distress was like, and to seek out proper channels through which to distribute what had been collected. A few volunteered, and one wrote to a bookseller in Manchester, asking if he could allow them to meet some dozen Christian men at his place of business to confer together. To this the bookseller gladly consented, and a meeting was held there on the 3rd of September. One or two of the gentlemen were well known for their great interest in the religious welfare of the people, and one of them was pressed to go that evening and take part in a service held in Mill-street, at a place where many of those who were distressed might be seen. The gentleman consented and attended the meeting. He went to the reading-desk; told the people that there was only one subject upon which he could speak; then described how the Christians of the Apostolic age helped their poor, and then drew the natural inference. He left the desk, and mingled with the audience, saying that he should like to hear from the working men present what they thought was the best plan of helping their poorer neighbours. There was earnest prayer and earnest conference, and at the close some of those present were chosen to go out and look up such as might be in need, who shrank from applying to the guardians or the relief committees, or who by reason of sickness or other peculiar circumstances were needing additional help. A lady who attended the London visitors gave money to these selected persons and they went on their good errand. Amongst them were two young men, one of them (Mr. F.) employed in the bookseller's shop at which the afternoon meeting was held. To these two a sum of 24 10s. was given; they left the meeting at about ten o'clock at night. The first thing they did was to call at a baker's shop and buy a 4lb. loaf, and get change for the gold, which they feared to lose. The bookseller's shopman took the loaf under his arm, and off they trudged, determined to do part of their work that night. At about half-past ten they called at the house of a woman whom they knew to be in distressed circumstances. Late as it was the poor woman had not returned from a day's labour she had managed to get at some neighbour's house—so a child was sent for her, and she was overjoyed at the receipt of the loaf and a little cash. After this, the shopman went home, and told his wife what work he had undertaken. The wife was at once interested and told her husband of Mrs. H., whom they both knew, and who might that night be wanting food for both herself and children. The wife would then and there turn out. She went to the house where distress was; tapped at the door gently, and on it being opened found that the widow was occupied with work like that of Hood's seamstress, who was—

Stitching at once, with a double thread,
A shroud as well as a shirt.

Taking her over to their own house and ascertaining how best they could give the help they knew was needed, they sent her home, having made two families happy that night.

The next morning our shopman went to report progress, and more money was given to him. He worked zealously, and was admirably seconded by his wife. They soon found that something more was

needed than the mere distribution of money, and they sought to obtain work for one or two poor women whom they came across. This seeking of work led them to explain their relief scheme to a few ladies, from whom they got additional means—in some cases to pay the rent of poor cottagers, who, but for this timely aid, might have been thrust into the street.

Having, before the end of the first week, reported again to his London friends, he received from them a still further amount—making, altogether, 9*l.* 10*s.* that week. This seemed to him a large sum. On the Sunday he chanced to go with a town missionary to a meeting in one of the poorest districts in Manchester, and whilst there an idea occurred to him which he lost no time in putting into practice. He asked the missionary to go out the next day and select about thirty of the poorest mothers and widows he could find, and invite them to tea. The time appointed came, but the missionary had found it impossible to restrict himself to the stated number, and instead of thirty there were forty-eight guests. A good feast was supplied to them; after it a pleasant meeting was held, in the course of which the poor folks were encouraged to continue bearing their burdens with the patience they had up to that time manifested, and at the close the advice was followed up by a gift of a 4*lb.*-loaf, a half-pound of sugar, and an ounce of tea to each person.

The success which attended this meeting led this young man to think that in efforts of this kind he might find a special field of labour, in which he could not only give support to their bodily powers, but also give that spiritual sustenance which they needed. He heard that there were some warpers who were in sad distress; he invited them to tea, cheered them with Christian converse, and at the close added to the usual loaf, tea, and sugar a shilling for each man. His next treat was to about twenty-five of the poorest women who could be found in Hulme. In going about to pick out these poor women many sad sights were seen, and considerable relief given. The next treat was to collect another lot of women in a ragged-school and to feast and talk to them. At the close of each of these meetings a loaf, tea, and sugar, were given to each guest.

The money which had been given to Mr. F. for his good work was getting exhausted, and yet it was his earnest desire to gather the orphan mill-girls from the sewing-schools, and give them tea, and after that some encouragement to bear up under their trials. "Just at the right time" (as he himself says) a worthy doctor from Edinburgh called upon him, saying that being about taking his usual holiday by scouring the Highlands (it was then the end of September), he thought it best just to run down to London to see some friends there. He saw his friends, and at a meeting to which he went he heard a Mr. R. speak of what he had seen in Lancashire, and of what he thought was still wanting there. The doctor resolved that he would not visit the Highlands, but that he would come down to Lancashire, see what the distress was like for himself, and spend what money he could for its relief. The name of the young shopman of whom I have said so much was given to him, and hence the call upon him to which I have just alluded. In the conversation which ensued the young man told Dr. S. of his desire to get all the orphans together from the sewing-schools. The doctor liked the plan much, and gave all the money needed, asking Mr. F. to get all ready for the feast whilst he visited Blackburn, so that he himself might be present. With some search about seventy orphans were got together; the arrangements of the whole meeting were such as to please; and after the good feast had been partaken of, our friend the doctor addressed the poor girls. So pleased was our Edinburgh doctor with what he saw at this meeting that he gave to Mr. F. a sum of money with which to purchase a New Testament for each girl who might not have one, and on his return to Edinburgh he took care to tell of what he had seen, and the result was that about 30*l.*, and clothing to the value of about 4*l.*, was sent down to Mr. F. to enable him to continue his relief scheme. Then, too, a few private Christian soldiers stationed at Aldershot got to know what Mr. F. was doing, and sent him from time to time such sums as they could spare—altogether about 4*l.* From other sources help came, and from the beginning of September to now Mr. F. has kept up his work. He is, however, now idle, or nearly so, from want of funds.

Of course, he has not been able to do all this work single-handed; he has had the help of personal friends, of young men like himself, and others. Of late one of his chief assistants has been a relative of the Edinburgh doctor who did so much for him. It would take up too much space to tell all that has been done, to particularise each meeting which has

been held, and to describe its principal features. The object was to get at those people who were touched peculiarly by the distress, and give such aid and such encouragement to them as should make that meeting live in the memory as a bright spot amid surrounding darkness. The success has been exceedingly great. In all about two thousand people have been fed and addressed, and about ten bales of clothing distributed amongst them. These meetings have been held in all sorts of places—in Sunday-schools, in ragged-schools, in a fustian-cutter's garret, and wherever it was seen would be best for the express purpose of the particular gathering. Nor have these meetings been confined to Manchester. Our friends have carried their good work to Pendleton, Bury, Ashton, Glossop, and to other places. About 5,000 copies of the *British Workman*, the *Band of Hope*, and similar publications, have been distributed. The money received from the commencement of this work in September to last week has been about 100*l.*, and it was scarcely possible for that sum to have been better used.

I have before me a letter written by an admiral's daughter, and in which one of these meetings is described. It would, perhaps, enable your readers to understand better this particular work if I just selected the salient features from the letter. The meeting place was in Newton Heath. Our friend Mr. F. had asked for the use of the school-room, which was cheerfully given by the rector. It was thought it would contribute to the success of the meeting if a sufficient number of ladies could be prevailed upon to serve the guests. About this there was no difficulty. The people specially sought out for this meeting were the wives and mothers of the factory hands; and whilst some were busy wandering about the bye-lanes to find these guests, and to give the invitation, the schoolmaster,—who seems to have entered into the work with his whole heart,—set about decorating the school. This was done very neatly, and when the guests began to arrive, they were astonished to find themselves in so bright and pleasant a place. The tables were loaded with good things for the body, but not with those only. At intervals fine vases, with finer flowers, stood to captivate the sense of the poor guests, and laid profusely upon the tables were small bouquets of flowers, which were afterwards given to the guests. These guests were rather an "odd lot." The first to arrive was a poor woman who was a cripple, she was carried to a seat and made comfortable. The next was a poor woman whose sight was failing her, and to whom the brilliant light in the room seemed to give pain. The watchful ladies soon found her a good place which was a little in shade, and she was comfortable. Then others came in, almost each individual bearing in face or in dress some mark of the prevalent distress. After grace had been sung, the tea was rapidly distributed by the ladies, who added to the comfort of the poor folks by their cheerful converse, and their careful attention. Tea finished, a pleasant meeting was held; a few addresses delivered; a few hymns sung; and then the tea was brought to a close by the distribution of a loaf, of tea, and of sugar to each person. I forgot to mention that each mother was desired to bring her baby, if she had one, and that the multitude of youngsters who were gathered there in the arms of their mothers added to the novelty whilst they did not much disturb the harmony of the meeting. All who were present,—the poor who were guests, and the rich who were servants,—all combined in saying that they never spent so happy an evening. Next day the young lady whose letter lies before me went round to such of the houses of the guests as he could; and found the loaf,—not whole as last night—on the table; and that the tea and sugar had already been in use. One incident mentioned is rather striking. At the distribution of loaves, &c., at the close of the meeting an old woman was seen to manifest so much joy that some body addressed her, wanting to know what pleased her so much. The poor woman replied that she should now have tea for dinner next Sunday, and on further questioning it appeared that the Sunday when she had last enjoyed her favourite beverage had long been gone by.

There can be no doubt that much good will result from these meetings. The prayer which preceded them and which attended them, must be of some avail, and it would be impossible for any one to note this combination of praying and working, without hoping that the example set by those who were engaged in it may be followed by many. There have been few occasions when so much of a truly Christian spirit has been at work,—prompting those in whom it lived to follow their Master's example and go about "doing good,"—as has been evinced during the long continuance of this distress, and those who have watched it most see how great is the good effected

by its means. Not only is the body fed, but the spirit is cheered and sustained.

CENTRAL RELIEF COMMITTEE.

At the weekly meeting on Monday it was reported by the hon. secretary that the bankers' balance on general account was 412,420*l.*; on New South Wales account, 14,100*l.* There had been despatched during the week 83 packages of clothing, 982 barrels of flour, 17 hampers of wine, 29 barrels of bacon, &c. Mr. Commissioner Farnall reports the decrease in the number relieved during the preceding week at 5,918, making a total since December 6th of 49,877.

There are 222,106 persons relieved by guardians, or 11·2 per cent. on a population of 1,984,965; there are 238,206 persons (who are not so relieved) maintained by 143 local committees, or 12·0 per cent. on the same population; so that there are 460,312 persons, or 23·2 per cent. of that population either relieved by guardians or maintained by local committees. The weekly expenditure, in relief alone, by the guardians is 16,564*l.*, which is at the rate of 861,328*l.* per annum, or 3*s.* 1*d.* in the pound on the net rateable value, in 1856 (viz., 5,545,111*l.*), of the property within the 27 unions adverted to. The 143 local committees expend in general relief 23,700*l.* per week, which is at the rate of 1,232,400*l.* per annum; the total expenditure, therefore, in relief alone, by the guardians and the committee, is at the rate of 2,093,728*l.* per annum; so that if the poor-rate had been burdened with the whole expenditure, a rate of 7*s.* 6*d.* in the pound on the total net rateable value of the property within the 27 unions would have been required for relief alone. Under ordinary circumstances, 48,425 persons, or 2·5 per cent. on the population, are at this season of the year in the receipt of relief, and the weekly expenditure of the guardians in relief is 4,007*l.*, which is at the rate of 208,364*l.* per annum, or 9*d.* in the pound, on the net rateable value of the property within the 27 unions to which the report applies.

In reply to a question, Mr. Farnall stated that, so far as his information went, the general health of the distressed districts appeared to be in a favourable condition.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday, in reply to Lord Ravensworth, the Duke of SOMERSET said he was opposed to the creation of a variety of harbours of refuge before the four great harbours at Dover, Holyhead, Alderney, and Portland were completed, if the new ports were to be paid for by public money. By means of loans obtained from the Public Loan Commissioners a certain number of trading harbours were in course of construction, and these, he expected, would shortly be increased by local exertions. The endeavours of the Government had been used to forward private enterprise in constructing trading harbours without increasing the public taxation.

After some further proceedings, their Lordships adjourned.

On Friday, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH presented petitions from Indian officers, complaining of the loss of certain advantages they considered to have been guaranteed to them by Parliament by the amalgamation of the Indian with the Royal army; and pressed the claims of these officers to the rights to promotion and allowances of which they had been deprived. He suggested the appointment of a commission or a committee to investigate the subject. The Duke of ARGYLL said that the guarantee given by the Act of Parliament had been fully observed, and its provisions were such as were consistent with the public service.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes past seven.

On Monday Lord DERBY commented on the want of business before the House, and asked whether the Government would give a list of the important measures dimly shadowed forth in the Royal Speech. He also condemned in very strong terms the conduct of Mr. Christie in the Brasilia, and inquired whether it met with the approbation of the Government. Lord GRANVILLE stated that a bill against the pollution of rivers by noxious gases and chemical ingredients would be shortly introduced by Lord Stanley of Alderley. The papers relating to the Brasilia would shortly be laid before Parliament. After a short conversation between Lord Derby and Lord Stanley of Alderley, in regard to the promised bill on noxious cases, &c., the House adjourned at twenty-five minutes past five o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

At the day sitting on Wednesday, the Salmon Fisheries (Ireland) Bill was read a second time, after some discussion.

The Drainage (Ireland) Bill was read a second time.

On the motion by Mr. BRAND, the following resolution was agreed to:—"That an humble address be presented to her Majesty that she will be graciously pleased to give directions that the estimates of the disembodied militia in England and Ireland, for the year ending 31st of March, 1864, be laid before this House."

Mr. NEWDEGATE obtained leave to bring in a bill to establish a charge in lieu of Church rates.

Lord RAYNHAM obtained leave to bring in a bill for the better prevention of aggravated assaults on women and children.

On the motion of Colonel TAYLOR, a new writ was ordered for Lisburn, in room of Mr. Richardson, who had accepted a stewardship of the manor of Northstead.

On Thursday, in reply to Colonel Patten, Mr. M.

GIBSON stated that he would give notice shortly of his intention to move for a committee to consider the question of private bill legislation, with a view to reduce the expenses now attending the promotion of private bills.

RAILWAY MANAGEMENT.

In reply to Mr. G. Bentinck, Mr. MILNER GIBSON said it was not the intention of Government to interfere by legislation with the management of railways. He was glad to say, however, that there had been a decrease in the number of railway accidents as compared with previous years; only one passenger was killed in 3,700,000, and only one in 200,000 injured.

TICKETS-OF-LEAVE.

In reply to Mr. Butler, Sir G. GREY stated that the return ordered by the House, on the 3rd of last July, relative to ticket-of-leave prisoners, had already been laid before Parliament. It would be inconvenient to lay on the table a list of the cases in which the ticket-of-leave had been dispensed with. With regard to the convict Redpath, he believed that he had received a ticket-of-leave in the colony to which he had been transported; but as his sentence was transportation for life, he could not return to this country until he received a free pardon, and which he is not likely to obtain.

THE LANCASHIRE DISTRESS.

Mr. VILLIERS moved for leave to bring in a bill to extend for a further period the provisions of the Union Relief Aid Act of the last session. The right hon. gentleman remarked that the bill of last session was introduced under some apprehension that under the ordinary operation of the Poor Law there would not be any means provided for the relief of the distress that was expected to occur. It was alleged at the time that the great and wealthy counties in which the distress prevailed were neither unable nor unwilling to discharge the liability of maintaining their poor. On the contrary, they emphatically declared their desire to maintain their poor, and, generally speaking, there was an opinion on the part of the House of Commons that it was desirable not to depart from the ancient policy of local liability to meet local wants, so that the administration should be left in local hands. Some seemed to think that the poor of Lancashire should be placed as a charge upon the Consolidated Fund, but no proposition to that effect was formally submitted to the House. It was thought, however, that there should be some modification of the Poor Law, in order to enable the guardians to feel assured that they possessed the means of relieving the vast mass of poverty which was then spreading. He believed that in the manufacturing districts there was hardly any intermediate class between the masters and the men. It became, therefore, almost a necessary result that when trade was depressed the enormous number of people who required relief, and the small number who could then contribute to that relief, rendered the manufacturing districts less capable of bearing the burden. It was, therefore, hardly fair to estimate the capabilities of the district for supporting its poor by the value of its property; and, under those circumstances, it was considered reasonable that some means should be devised to assure the boards of guardians that the means at their disposal for affording relief would not be allowed to fail. A measure was therefore submitted which was easy and simple in its operation; and being in accordance with the ancient practice of the country with regard to the relief of the poor, was considered the best that could be adopted. The leading principle of that bill was to give power to the districts burdened by the distress to call upon other parts of the county not so burdened to contribute to the relief; and there was a further provision, which was certainly more simple and popular—that when the charge on property became excessive, and exceeded certain limits, they might obtain the sanction of the Poor Law Board to borrow any money needed. He believed it was impossible to devise a bill which was more happily suited to the condition of the manufacturing districts, and he believed also that the measure had given general satisfaction. He proposed now to continue the Act of last session for another year.

Colonel PATTEN expressed his approval of the continuance of the bill, but thought the right honourable gentleman was labouring under a misapprehension if he thought the bill as it now stood had given entire satisfaction. Colonel Patten, at some length, pointed out the condition in which Lancashire had been placed by the distress, and highly eulogised the benevolence of the public, and the patience and forbearance displayed by the operatives. He stated that the rates, in the localities where the pressure was heaviest, had been increased ten, seventeen, and even nineteen times; and that the total amount spent in the relief of the poor since the Act passed had been 908,000*l.*, of which 658,000*l.* had been contributed by public charity. Contributions amounting to 46,630*l.* had been received from Australia, Madeira, Russia, Spain, Holland, Egypt, the Brazils, Turkey, Canada, Buenos Ayres, China, India, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia.

The LORD MAYOR warned the House that the time was approaching when voluntary contributions could not be depended upon, and when the machinery of the Relief Bill would have to be brought forcibly into operation. He added that the subscriptions which had been raised had exercised a very prejudicial influence over other charities.

After some remarks from Mr. Hibbert, Sir B. Leighton, and Mr. Alderman Sidney,

Lord STANLEY suggested that the bill should be continued for six months instead of twelve. That would afford them an opportunity for reconsidering the question before the recess.

Mr. COBDEN thought that, assuming the war in America to be continued, the condition of the cotton districts would be much more serious than it had been already. They could not rely upon a repetition of the munificent generosity which had been displayed by the public one winter; and the districts themselves would be less able to contribute.

Next winter would have to be encountered without these benevolent resources to fall back on, and there would be nothing but the poor-rates to rely upon. At that time, too, the majority of the ratepayers would have become insolvent, the claims on the rates would be greater, the subscriptions would have ceased, and a large amount of rateable property would have fallen out of the assessment lists. He did not wish to say a word in derogation of the world-wide benevolence which had flowed into Manchester, but it was not generally known that the largest portion of the contributions to this fund had come from the cotton districts. A table had lately been published by Mr. Maclure, the hon. secretary of the Central Committee, and in it he stated that the sums raised in the different cotton towns and distributed by the local committees, without passing through the hands of the Central Committee at all, amounted to 245,000*l.*, and that the sums raised in the cotton districts and remitted to the Manchester Central Committee were at least 350,000*l.* Besides this, he himself, after very careful inquiries, had made an estimate of what had been spent privately by the millowners and manufacturers on their hands. Some of them were spending at the rate of 20,000*l.* to 30,000*l.* a year in this way, and the whole sum thus contributed would amount, as he estimated it, to 250,000*l.* within the twelve months, which never appeared in the subscription lists at all. This made the contributions to the relief of the distress from the cotton districts alone 845,000*l.* Assuming that the whole voluntary subscriptions from all parts of the world amounted to 1,500,000*l.*—and he had never seen them estimated at more—more than half came from the cotton districts alone. From that cause alone it was impossible to rely on the same amount of subscriptions, because the giving power of Lancashire by next winter must be considerably weakened. In Mr. Maclure's table it was stated that the poor-rates levied in the distressed unions for the year ending Midsummer, 1863, would be 600,000*l.* or nearly 12,000*l.* per week, in excess of the average rates paid for the relief of the poor. This, however, was but a small portion of the pressure borne in these districts. It was estimated by men most competent to judge that the operatives were now losing at the rate of from 8,000,000*l.* to 9,000,000*l.* a year in wages. Deducting from this amount what they received either from the rates or the charitable funds, the loss of wages to the operatives for the year ending Midsummer next would not be less than 6,000,000*l.* But that was not all; there was an enormous loss of capital going on. Reckoning the loss of interest, the depreciation of fixed capital, the non-payment of rents, and without taking into account the loss of profits, there would be a loss on the mills and other subsidiary branches of industry of at least 5,000,000*l.* in the year ending Midsummer. That would make a total loss sustained by employers and workmen of 11,000,000*l.* Adding to this the 845,000*l.* subscribed by the cotton districts and the 600,000*l.* additional poor-rates, the total amount of the pressure on the resources of Lancashire for the year ending Midsummer would be 12,445,000*l.* The whole amount, therefore, of the voluntary subscriptions from all the world, great as they were, would hardly amount to 5 per cent. of what had been contributed by Lancashire alone. These facts would show how cumulative would be the pressure on the resources of Lancashire next year, provided the war continued. The prostration of these districts, therefore, must be much greater than they had been. As had been well said by the gallant colonel who had so honourably distinguished himself in the work of relief—(Hear, hear)—the wisest heads in Lancashire were those who took the gloomiest views of the prospects of that district for the next twelve months. All this might be mitigated, of course, if the war in America came to an end in the course of the spring.

After some observations from Mr. Buller, Mr. Mundy, and Mr. J. Smith, leave was given to bring in the bill.

Mr. VILLIERS, in reply, said that the suggestions which had been made should receive his attentive consideration. It would be better to postpone any decision respecting them for the present.

Leave was then given to introduce the bill, which was afterwards brought up and read a first time, the second reading being fixed for that day week.

On the motion of Sir S. NORTHCOTE, the Speaker was empowered to issue his warrant for the election of a member for the borough of Devizes in the room of Captain Gladstone, deceased.

The House adjourned at a quarter to eight o'clock.

On Friday, Mr. W. E. FORSTER gave notice that he would, on Tuesday, the 3rd March, move for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the laws relating to game—(Hear, hear)—and to report what, if any, alterations were required in regard to them. (Hear, hear.)

Sir L. PALK said he would, on Friday next, call attention to the prevailing distress in the manufacturing districts of Lancashire, &c., and move an address for the appointment of a Royal commission to inquire into the best means of obtaining a permanent supply of cotton for the future—(Hear, hear)—and that he would also call the attention of the House to the long continuance of the American struggle, and move that, in the opinion of the House, under the circumstances, union appearing to be impracticable, it is expedient that the Government should offer mediation between the contending parties. (Hear, hear.)

In answer to Mr. Maguire, Sir R. PEEL said it was not intended to bring in a bill on the subject of tenant right in Ireland.

ENCLOSURE OF CROWN LANDS.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Mr. PEACOCKE moved an address praying that her Majesty would be pleased to give directions that no sales to facilitate enclosures be made of Crown lands, or Crown forestal rights, within fifteen miles of the

metropolis, the object being to preserve such places of public recreation as Epping and Hainault Forests. Mr. Cox seconded the motion, urging that the public had a right, from time immemorial, to the use of these forests. Mr. F. PEEL explained the nature and value of the forestal rights of the Crown, observing that the sale of those rights would not affect the enclosures. The course proposed would not be for the interests of the Crown or for the owners of the soil. He opposed the motion. Sir G. GREY read a correspondence with the Inclosure Commissioners, whence it appeared that ample notice would be given to the House before the enclosure of any of the lands in question. After some observations by Mr. Buxton, Mr. Locke, and Mr. Ayton, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER called the attention of the House to the terms of the motion, which went, he said, to prevent all such sales, and to limit the exercise of the discretion of the Crown for the public interests. Mr. HENLEY did not think the motion went to that extent. After further debate, on a division, Mr. Peacocke's motion was carried against the Government by 113 to 73.

POST-OFFICE SAVINGS-BANKS.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a resolution on which to found a bill relating to Post-office savings-banks, and which related to the old savings-banks only so far as it referred to transactions between the two classes of savings-banks. Its objects were to enable the old savings-banks to be wound up when it was thought necessary, and to hand over their assets to Post-office savings-banks; to enable the transfer of deposits of minors from old savings-banks to Post-office savings-banks and vice versa; and to enable the conversion of such perpetual annuities as were connected with savings-banks into terminable annuities.

The resolution was agreed to after some conversation.

THE TOBACCO DUTIES.

On going into committee on the Customs Acts—Reduction of Tobacco Duties—Colonel DICKSON inquired if a drawback would be allowed to those merchants who have already paid the duty on their stock in hand. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said it was not intended to allow any such drawback.

In committee, the right hon. gentleman proposed resolutions reducing the duties on manufactured tobacco—that is, reducing the duty on cigars to 5*s.* the pound, snuff to 3*s.* 9*d.* the pound, other manufactured tobacco 4*s.* the pound; and also allowing unmanufactured tobacco to be made into cavendish or negrohead tobacco, the duty on which, for home consumption, to be 3*s.* 8*d.* the pound. He said it was not proposed that the change in the duties should come into immediate operation, but it was intended that the trade in unmanufactured tobacco should be placed on the same footing as all other articles of manufacture, that is, be thrown open to foreign competition. This, it is believed, could be done by the proposed alteration without loss to the revenue. He only now asked the assent of the House to the principle of doing away a prohibitory duty, one of the effects of which would be to put an end to a somewhat extensive system of smuggling. A conversation followed, in which several suggestions were made, and the resolution was agreed to.

The Drainage Ireland (Stamps) Bill passed through committee.

Mr. WYKEHAM MARTIN obtained leave to bring a bill to amend the law respecting the liabilities of innkeepers, and to prevent certain frauds upon them.

Mr. A. SMITH obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the mode of taking votes at municipal elections.

The House adjourned shortly after seven o'clock.

On Monday, in answer to a question which was put to him, Sir George Grey announced that the Government intended to bring in a bill for creating a better system for the suppression of fires in the metropolis.

Mr. HORWOOD asked the Home Secretary if the Government intended to bring in a bill on the subject of Church-rates this session. Sir G. GREY: The Government have no bill which they are at present prepared to lay before the House on that subject.

In reply to Colonel Sykes, Mr. LAYARD said reports had reached the Government that Russian diplomatic authorities in China had entered into an arrangement with the Tartar Government to aid in taking Nankin, Soochoo, and Hangchow, on condition of having Chusan and other islands at the mouth of the Yang-tse Kiang ceded to Russia. The Government, however, had no reason to believe in the truth of the reports. As to the French, he (Mr. Layard) believed that they had been employed in disciplining Chinese troops; but he was not aware that they had raised any special bodies to be under their command. He was not aware that the French had acquired land at Ningpo. As to the collection of customs duties, there were no doubt Frenchmen, as well as persons of other nations, employed by the Chinese Government in the collection of customs.

Leave was given to introduce bills founded on the resolutions agreed to in committee in relation to Post-office Savings-banks and the tobacco duties. The Irish Registration of Births and Deaths Bill was read a second time, and the Irish Illegitimacy Bill passed through committee, after some discussion. The Drainage of Land (Ireland) Bill was advanced a stage, and now only awaits a second reading.

Mr. COWPER moved for leave to bring in a bill to empower the making of a new street from the end of the proposed Thames Embankment at Blackfriars-

bridge to the Mansion-house. He said the cost would be about 600,000*l.*, which it was intended should be defrayed out of the Thames Embankment Fund. As, however, that fund would in all probability not be large enough to defray the entire cost, it would be proposed that the coal duties should be continued for ten years after 1871. The proposal of Mr. Cowper brought most of the metropolitan members to their feet, and one after the other they suggested delay in bringing in the measure. Lord Palmerston, however, came to the rescue, said this was only asking leave to introduce the bill, and urged the importance of the work. Leave was then given, and the bill was brought in and read a first time.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER obtained leave to bring in a bill to extend the malt credits, after having declined to pledge himself to any measure for reducing the duty. The House adjourned at eight o'clock.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

The latest advices from New York are to Feb. 5th
REPORTED RAISING THE BLOCKADE OF CHARLESTON.

The Richmond papers contain Charleston despatches, stating that two Confederate iron-clad gunboats, accompanied by three steamers, went out from Charleston at one o'clock on the morning of the 31st ult., and attacked the blockading squadron. The engagement commenced at four o'clock. The Confederate gunboats sank the Federal gunboat Mercedita, carrying eleven guns, and another Federal gunboat whose name is unknown. They disabled the Federal steamer Quaker City, but she escaped with the loss of one wheel. The Confederates also set four Federal vessels on fire. The blockading fleet consisted of thirteen vessels, with two first-class frigates. The Confederate gunboats returned to Charleston, where they were received with immense enthusiasm. The Confederate commander, Ingraham, officially reported that the blockading fleet had gone out of sight. General Beauregard then issued a proclamation that the Confederate fleet had attacked the blockading squadron off Charleston, and sunk, dispersed, or driven off and out of sight for the time the entire hostile fleet. He therefore formally declared that the blockade of Charleston by the United States was raised by the superior force of the Confederates from and after the 31st of January. General Beauregard further placed steamers at the disposal of the foreign Consuls to see for themselves that no blockade existed, and, according to the Richmond papers, the British Consul went on board the steamer Petrel five miles beyond the usual anchorage of the blockaders, but could see nothing of them with glasses. The Richmond papers state that the foreign Consuls have held a meeting at Charleston, and were unanimously of opinion that the blockade had been legally raised.

Late on the evening of the 31st ult. four vessels of the blockading squadron reappeared, and on the 1st of February twenty blockading vessels were off Charleston bar.

The Northern papers consider the Southern account of the Charleston affair exaggerated, prepared specially for European circulation. Washington official despatches take the same view, and declare that there has been no interruption of the blockade, and that no such assumption will be admitted by the Government.

On the 3rd inst. Charleston was thoroughly blockaded, the Federal iron-clads then lying inside the wooden vessels. The iron-clads were not with the fleet when the attack is said to have been made. The New Ironsides had arrived off that harbour.

General Foster had abandoned the attack on Wilmington, and embarked with all his forces and sailed from Beaufort, aided by a large fleet of iron-clads and gunboats, to join in the assault on Charleston. His force is supposed to amount to 70,000 men.

THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

The Army of the Potomac remains quietly at Falmouth and Acquia. Desertions are numerous. The weather is very bad and the roads impassable. No movement is anticipated for some weeks.

Generals Sumner and Franklin were removed because of differences with General Hooker.

Mr. Raymond, of the *New York Times*, reports that in a visit to the camp he heard of one corps of 15,000 men, which on arriving to take part in General Burnside's projected movement was found to number but 5,000. In other words, the remaining 10,000 had severed their connexion with the Army of the Potomac by the simple act of desertion. The same correspondent writes that "the officers are demoralised in every sense of the word, and that they are a source of discouragement, discontent, and disheartenment to the soldiers," and does not hesitate to add that "the failure of General Burnside's movement was not so much owing to the storm and the mud as primarily and mainly to the insubordination of the generals, who, in the presence of inferior officers, of newspaper reporters, and of all who chose to listen, denounced the movement before it took place and while it was in progress."

THE BILL FOR ARMING NEGROES.

The bill to arm negroes was passed by the House of Representatives yesterday by a majority of 83 to 54. It provides that the President may arm such numbers of negroes as he may deem necessary for a term not exceeding five years. Their rations, clothing, and equipments are to be the same as for

other soldiers, and their pay not to exceed present rates; to be officered by white or black persons, and governed by the Articles of War and such special rules as the President may direct; but no black officer is to exercise authority over white officers or men, nor shall privates or labourers of colour receive more than ten dollars per month. There is an important proviso that no slaves of loyal owners shall be thus employed, nor shall any recruiting office be opened in Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, or Missouri without the consent of the governors of those States.

THE WAR ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

A detachment from the army of General Rosencranz is reported to have attacked and dislodged seven Confederate regiments stationed at Woodbury, twenty miles from Murfreesboro'. The Federals state that they killed thirty-four of the Confederates, but do not name their own loss.

General Grant had arrived at Vicksburg. There were 70,000 Federals there. The Confederates had planted a battery on the Mississippi shore in such a position as to command the outlet of the proposed canal or cut. Southern accounts state that the water of the Mississippi is running through the Vicksburg cut from two to four feet in depth, but that there was no sign of the channel widening.

The *Memphis Bulletin* of the 26th states that General Joe Johnston commanded the whole Western department of the Confederate army, and was marching with a large force to Vicksburg. It was believed that he could concentrate 150,000 men for the defence of Vicksburg. The Confederates were determined to stake everything to hold Vicksburg and Port Hudson, and to keep open the communication between Louisiana, Arkansas, and Texas. The fortifications at Port Hudson were complete.

General Banks' whole expedition had left New Orleans. Its supposed destination is Port Hudson.

Confederate accounts of the 30th of January report the recapture of Holly Springs, Mississippi, by General Van Dorn, with 700 prisoners and a large quantity of stores.

Another raid upon Van Buren, Arkansas, is said to have been made by the Federals, 130 strong, in which they claim to have captured the steamer Julia Roan and 300 prisoners, without loss to themselves.

POLITICAL EVENTS.

Mr. Thurlow Weed has retired from the editorship of the *Albany Evening Journal*, which he has conducted for thirty-three years, with unflinching devotion to the interests of his party. The war has made him a Conservative and hostile to emancipation. In his valedictory address he says:—

We have fallen upon evil times. Our country is in immediate and imminent danger. I differ widely with my party about the best means of crushing the rebellion. That difference is radical and irreconcilable. I can neither impress others with my views nor surrender my own solemn convictions. The alternative of being in strife with those I have esteemed or withdrawing is presented. I have not hesitated in choosing the path of peace as the path of duty.

Ex-Governor Morgan, the nominee of the Republican and Union caucus at Albany for United States' Senator, was elected upon the first ballot on the 3rd inst.

Chicago, by the voice of a public meeting, declares that Mr. Lincoln (of Illinois) has neither "backbone nor grit," and that if the war is to be prosecuted for the extermination of the Southern people the *cause* of the army must undertake the job, for the brave men will not do it. The *Chicago Tribune* declares—

If in the changes and reorganisation that are possible it is necessary for the West to choose where she will go, she may not become an appendage either of the middle States or of the South, but may declare her independence of both; and in the heart of the continent, the possessor of the finest soil and the best climate in the hemisphere, with more than 10,000,000 of people, and the prospect of a rapid increase, may organise an empire that will dominate over all other sections of the republic.

The *Richmond Dispatch* warns the Democrats and Conservatives of the North to dismiss from their minds the delusion that the South will ever consent on any terms to re-enter the Union, and says that if the North allowed the South to write a constitution, and gave every guarantee, the South would prefer the government of England or France to re-entering the Union.

The *New York Tribune* says the people want to see the Government make war in earnest. If they cannot make war, or if they make war and fail, and shall therefore be satisfied that the struggle is hopeless, the people will next wish to ascertain if the Government is equally incapable of making peace.

The *New York Herald* and the *Times* favour the continuance of the war until the Union is restored.

NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS.

Accounts received from Port Royal of the attack on the 27th ult. of the Federal iron-clad Montauk against Fort M'Allister, near the Savannah River, state that the Montauk withdrew, with her turret seriously damaged, after a battle of four hours' duration.

The *Richmond Whig* of February 2 announces that the steamer Princess Royal was captured by the Federal cruisers while attempting to run the blockade at Charleston a few days previously. The pilot and two or three of the crew escaped in boats to Charleston, and succeeded in saving important despatches from Captain Maury to the Confederate Government. The Princess Royal had on board a party of English workmen in projectiles, and a valuable cargo of Whitworth guns, steam-engines, and powder.

It was reported at Savannah on the 27th ult. that the Confederate steamer Florida (Oreto) had been destroyed in a desperate encounter with several

Federal war vessels; but it has not been possible to trace the report to any reliable authority.

By the West India mail we learn that the Confederate steamer Alabama was at Port Royal, having landed 118 men and 17 officers of the war-steamer Hatteras, which she engaged and sunk in thirteen minutes. Forty-three of the crew of the Hatteras were drowned.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In an engagement near the Blackwater River, Virginia, the 167th Pennsylvania Regiment, composed of drafted men, refused to fight, and lay down upon the ground during the entire engagement.

Accounts from New Orleans to the 25th ult. state that the steamer Harriet Lane, recently captured by the Confederates at Galveston, ran the blockade at that port on the 18th. At the time the Harriet Lane fell into Confederate hands she was provided with a more powerful armament than any vessel of her tonnage.

General Banks' administration of affairs at New Orleans appears not to meet with the approbation of the officials in his department. General Hamilton, who has returned to Washington, complains of him in bitter terms, and it is reported that he has some difficulty with Governor Shepley in regard to the appointment of a Provost-Marshal. General Butler was also in Washington, and it was reported that he would be reappointed to the command of the Gulf department.

Mr. Boileau, of the *Philadelphia Evening Journal*, was released from Fort M'Henry on the 1st inst. He had previously written a penitent letter to General Schenck disavowing his knowledge of any objectionable articles in his paper, and expressing profoundly loyal sentiments. The Democratic journals express great disgust at his conduct, and the Democrats of Philadelphia have resolved to withdraw their patronage from his paper.

General McClellan has been enthusiastically received by the people of Boston. It is said he will be the candidate of the Democrats for the next Presidential election.

By the last accounts gold was at 55 per cent. premium at New York.

The Federals have destroyed the Confederate iron-clad steamer Cotton in Bayouche. They have also flanked the Confederate land forces in that section, and it was supposed the latter would be compelled to surrender.

Both Houses of the Missouri Legislature have passed a resolution asking Congress to appropriate 25,000,000 dols. for emancipation.

The Confederate Congress does not favour a retaliatory policy.

Mr. Wadsworth, of Kentucky, has declared in Congress that if negro regiments were sent into Kentucky, the Kentuckians would resist their passage throughout the State.

The Federals have now no less than nineteen armed men-of-war cruising in search of the Alabama.

Resolutions were pending in the New Jersey Legislature calling on the Government to restore General McClellan to the position of general-in-chief.

In the case of a negro indicted for grand larceny at St. Louis, Missouri, the question was raised as to whether he was a free man or a slave at the time of the larceny. Evidence was elicited that he was born a slave in Mississippi. The judge gave an elaborate decision, declaring the prisoner a free man by virtue of the President's proclamation.

According to a despatch from Newbern, General Stanley had sent in his resignation in consequence of the President's proclamation.

FRANCE.

On Wednesday last, in the Chamber of Deputies, after the speeches of MM. Keller and Gravier de Cassagnac in favour of Rome, M. Billaut replied to M. Favre. He said it was easy to prove that the Italian policy of France was neither powerless nor equivocal. It was requisite that the interest of France should be the first matter of consideration, and not the Italian or the Catholic interest. These interests should be protected by France. She could never suffer the Pope to be a slave. France also desires to protect religious interests as a social right. The interest of France requires tranquillity upon her frontiers, and if she only consulted her advantage she would prefer a federation of Italian States; but France had raised no opposition to the unity of Italy. M. Billaut next inquired whether Rome was necessary to Italy. He said that to France Rome represented one of the foundations of the Holy See. Rome as the capital of Italy is of secondary interest to France. The speaker then proceeded to show that France had never promised Rome to the Italians, citing documentary evidence, and stating that the course of policy pursued was always the same. Recalling what France had done for Italy, he said that the political and religious interests of France are opposed to the abandonment of Rome. M. Billaut concluded:—

Italy has before her two different courses. She can make an appeal to revolution, or lean upon France while completing her organisation. The Emperor will continue to labour at reconciling Italy and the Pope. He will bring to the task the greater perseverance, the more the passive resistance he has to encounter, convinced that in that direction lies the interest of Italy and the interest of the Pope, assured that to that end is directed the desires of the Catholic world, and, above all, the prayers of France.

M. Ollivier having replied, the amendment was then rejected, and the paragraph in the Address referring to Rome was adopted by the Chamber.

On Thursday the entire Address was agreed to by the Chamber, 240 voting for it and 5 against it.

The Emperor of the French received on Saturday the deputation from the Corps Législatif, charged to present him with the Address in reply to the speech from the throne. The Emperor only spoke a few words, in which he declared his satisfaction at finding in the Address a new proof of the concord existing between the Representative Chamber and the Government. Such harmony of understanding he declared peculiarly important at the present moment, in order to strengthen the legitimate influence which France is exercising abroad amid the many passions which agitate other countries and quarters of the globe.

Public opinion has been a good deal excited by the new restriction placed upon newspaper comments on the debates. M. Emile Girardin, in the *Presse*, not only indignantly protested against the order, but also wrote an article analysing the debate on America, avoiding, however, the dreaded Mexican question. It is now understood that the restriction as to comments has been withdrawn.

The Emperor of Russia is coming to Paris in the spring; such at least is his present intention, as well as that of his Imperial friend. The object of the projected visit is said to be "to come to an understanding as to a common action in Belgian affairs after the demise of King Leopold."—*Times Correspondent.*

ITALY.

The Italian Minister of Finance made his statement to the Chamber of Deputies on Saturday. By the contraction of a loan of 28,000,000L, by the sale of crown lands, and the consolidated conversion of a large number of mortgaged estates, by an increase of the land-tax, by the establishment of taxes on certain kinds of moveable property, by city tolls, the sale of railways, the institution of a bank for making advances upon the security of landed property, by a re-organisation of the existing banking system, and by a reform in the method of granting mortgages, the Ministers hope to bring the national income up to the national expenditure in four years. The statement is said to have been favourably received by the Chamber.

A demonstration in favour of Poland has been made at Genoa. One speaker, having proposed that the Italians should aid the Polish insurrection by material means, the police ordered the dissolution of the meeting, which took place without any disturbance. A meeting for the same object has been prevented at Naples.

THE POLISH INSURRECTION.

The accounts received from the frontiers of Poland of the 7th inst. state that although the insurrection has been suppressed in some places, it is assuming greater proportions in others. The system adopted by the chiefs is to everywhere refuse a regular engagement with the Russian troops. They confine themselves to the attack of small detachments and to harassing the moveable columns sent against them. The Russians consequently do not know where to begin, and while they pursue one party, another corps of insurgents attack them in the rear and carry off their baggage and provisions. Notwithstanding the force the Russians have in the field, their numbers are not sufficient to crush the various corps of partisans. The commander of the Russian army at Warsaw dare not send reinforcements into the provinces for fear of a rising in that capital. There are sixteen regiments of infantry encamped on the banks of the Vistula and of the Bug. The banks of the Rosnas and of the Wartha, as well as of the Upper Vistula and of the Pilica, have been abandoned by the Russians. Their distant garrisons and their flying corps have been for the most part disarmed by the insurgents. The Russians occupy a very strong position at Keike, where they can watch the movements of the insurgents; but the latter, having the command of the frontiers, are continually receiving reinforcements, and they expect to hold out until the spring.

Letters from Cracow, of the 8th instant, state that a Russian detachment, after having driven the insurgents from the town of Tamachow, in the Government of Lublin, attacked the unarmed inhabitants. Many persons who had not taken any part in the insurrection perished in this massacre. Even the houses of the public functionaries were first pillaged and then set on fire. As many of the inhabitants as could escape sought shelter in the village of Belzec, in Austrian Galicia. While the Russian troops thus gratify their vengeance, the insurgents treat the Russian soldiers who fall into their hands with the greatest humanity. A few days previously, the corps of Langiewicz, which is the best organised of all, having occupied the frontier position of Machky, on the railway from Warsaw to Vienna, and that of Wodzicow, suffered the guards of the frontiers to withdraw quietly to the Prussian territory. The guards on the frontiers of Austria were disarmed by the insurgents, and were suffered to retire quietly to Brzezno. The population of Proszovitz and Wislitz have established a National Government.

Almost the whole of the railway between Warsaw and Cracow is in the hands of the insurgents.

The Russian and Prussian governments show great irritation against the Austrian press, which manifests remarkable sympathies with the Polish cause.

The exportation and carriage of arms and parts of arms, scythes, ammunition, saltpetre, sulphur, and lead across the frontier to Russia has been prohibited by the Austrian Government.

In some cases the Russian troops driven across

the Prussian frontier are sent back again fully equipped.

The National Committee at Warsaw has appointed a president, to whom exclusive authority is given. This president has issued a proclamation to the inhabitants of Warsaw, in which the insurrection is spoken of as general—as a contest for life or death—a war which shall "overturn the giant despot who threatens European civilisation and the liberty of peoples."

The promise of lands to the peasants made by the revolutionary leaders was contained in a proclamation dated January the 22nd, which was issued by the central committee, acting as a temporary National Government. After some sentences of indignation at the conscription, the proclamation calls on the whole Polish nation to cast off the "accursed yoke, or die." Then it says:—

On the first day of our openly coming forward, at the moment when the holy struggle begins, the committee declares that all the sons of Poland, without any distinction of faith or race, descent or station, are free and equal citizens of the country. From this moment the land which the agricultural population possessed on condition of paying rent or giving task-work to their masters is unconditionally their property and that of their heirs. The landholders who will be injured by this arrangement shall be compensated from the general funds of the State. The families of all labourers who join the ranks of the defenders of the country, or die a glorious death while so serving, shall receive a share of the land protected from the enemy, out of the State property. To arms, then, Poland, Lithuania, and Ruthenia, to arms! for the hour of our mutual liberation has sounded; the old sword has been drawn from its sheath; the sacred standard of the Eagle, the Knight, and the Archangel is unfurled.

A French courier has arrived in Paris from Russia. He was stopped on the way by the insurgents in Lithuania, and was subjected to a regular examination. His despatches were given back to him without being opened. He was conducted to the camp of the insurgents in order that he might see them, and report from personal observation. He was dismissed with this injunction:—"You have seen us, and now you may tell your Government that we are not Socialists nor Communists, but that we are fighting simply for independence and for our nationality."

A letter from St. Petersburg states that at the representation the other evening of a new Russian drama, a hostile allusion was made to the Polish insurrection, when a perfect storm burst forth in the theatre. A great portion of the assembly hissed, and showed their disapprobation, while others applauded. This division of public opinion with regard to the Poles has produced a strong impression at St. Petersburg.

The insurgents throughout "the kingdom" decline the service of married men; and as the secret committee in Warsaw orders youths under 18 to stay at home, it is plain that the whole population able to carry arms is on the popular side.

PRUSSIA.

In Monday's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies, Herr von Bismarck-Schönhausen, in reply to a question put to him collectively by the Polish members, said:—"The aim of the Polish movement is the re-establishment of Poland as far as possible to the former extent of the kingdom. Even setting aside the possible result of this struggle, the insurrection affects the political interest of Prussia, as, according to official information, it aims at preparing a similar movement in Prussian territory at an opportune moment. The Government trusts to the fidelity of the majority of the Polish subjects of the Crown, but is obliged to protect them against the compulsion and seduction which has been exercised in Russian Poland towards the citizens and peasantry by emigrants, the gentry, and a portion of the clergy." Herr von Bismarck-Schönhausen said, in conclusion, that the Government was determined to energetically take measures to ensure the public safety wherever it was endangered.

The *Nord Deutsche Zeitung*, in a leading article on the Polish insurrection, says:—"The intervention of Prussia in Polish affairs has commenced by the assistance rendered to the fugitive Russian troops. An actual invasion of Polish territory was not intended by Prussia. Such a proceeding would require a convention between Prussia and Russia, which at present is not heard of." The same paper states that Earl Russell had cautiously expressed himself in terms which are neither for nor against such an intervention.

The convention between Prussia and Russia is stated to include an article permitting the transport of Russian troops upon Prussian railways.

About 80,000 men will soon be concentrated in the eastern part of Prussia, and it is at Vienna believed that they are to serve a double purpose—to keep the Poles in check on the one side, and the Prussian Liberals on the other.

GREECE.

The refusal of Duke Ernest of Saxe-Coburg to become a candidate for the throne of Greece has produced a painful impression. Tranquillity prevails, but doubts are entertained in some quarters whether it will be maintained. A decree has been passed by the National Assembly, entrusting the functions of Government to three members, each of whom will preside in rotation.

King Otho has decided on renouncing his rights to the throne of Greece on condition that his private property and the Queen's dowry deposited in the Bank of Athens shall be restored to him. The King also asks an indemnity for the palace of Athens, which was built at his own expense.

MEXICO.

Intelligence from Mexico to the 17th ult. states that the last French artillery corps had been despatched on the 10th of January for Orizaba. General Forey was to leave Orizaba on the 28th to join the troops advancing upon Puebla. Operations were expected to begin at the end of the month. The evacuation of Tampico had commenced. The French army found supplies upon the plain in the neighbourhood.

CHINA.

A telegram from Shanghai, dated Jan. 10th, states that the Russian fleet will remain at Manilla. It is expected that the French troops will be withdrawn. It is reported that the siege of Nankin has been abandoned. No further particulars of the rebellion at Saigon have been received.

The *Gazette* contains a despatch, dated Headquarters, Kading, Dec. 5, from Brigadier-General Stavely, C.B., commanding her Majesty's troops in China, detailing the steps that he has taken to keep the captured towns round Shanghai clear of the rebels, and to enable Captain Gordon, R.E., to get the country mapped in.

AUSTRALIA.

The New South Wales Parliament was prorogued on the 20th of Dec. The Government succeeded in carrying every measure which they wished to press. The State-Aid Abolition Bill has passed both Houses of Parliament, the Legislative Council having agreed to forego the whole of their amendments.

Advices from Melbourne are to December 26. Parliament adjourned on the 19th of that month for the Christmas holidays. From the termination of the debate on the financial statement to the adjournment of the House, the Legislative Assembly was mainly occupied with the estimates. The Treasurer anticipates that the revenue of the year 1863 will not exceed 2,945,500L, and the expenditure has been cut down within the anticipated receipts. The Governor's Salary Reduction Bill, which was reserved for her Majesty's assent, has been disallowed, and the resignation of his office, which Sir H. Barkly had tendered, not accepted. A monster meeting had memorialised the Queen not to accept the resignation of Sir Henry Barkly, but to continue him as Governor for another term of years.

The discovery of new gold-fields in Gipps Land is adding largely to the extent of the known auriferous land of the colony.

Mr. Stuart, the veteran explorer, had arrived in Adelaide, after crossing the continent to Van Diemen's Gulf, at a point on the coast thirty miles east of Cape Hotham, as laid down on the Admiralty charts. It took him and his party six weeks to cut through the dense scrub which stopped him in the November of last year. North of this they came on fine rivers and beautiful country, both pastoral and agricultural, with many auriferous indications at intervals. Water was abundant, and hot winds unknown. Mr. Stuart pushed across alone from Van Diemen's Gulf to the Gulf of Carpentaria, and it is stated that hardship and anxiety have so exhausted him that absolute rest is essential to his restoration.

Mr. Howitt and his party had arrived at Adelaide with the remains of Burke and Wills, which were on their way to Melbourne. The remains were to lie in state in the Royal Society's Hall until the 21st of Jan., when the public funeral would take place.

Miss Rye, with 700 emigrants, had arrived safely at Queensland, and been well received.

NEW ZEALAND.

New gold-fields of some importance, though of no great extent, have been discovered in Otago during the month. Matters in New Zealand are still in an unsettled state. The *Times* Melbourne correspondent writes:—

The King movement still goes on. Sir George Grey is baffled mysteriously—partly by the hostile Maories, and partly, as according to general report he complains himself, by the intriguing of Roman Catholic ecclesiastics with the natives. By the last mail we learn that war is imminent, and that both Sir George and General Cameron have tendered their resignations, unless backed up from home with 15,000 troops. The position of both Governor and Commander-in-Chief is a trying one. Opinions both in and out of the New Zealand Parliament are much divided on this native question, and certainly one more embarrassing it is hard to conceive.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

King Victor Emmanuel has conferred the title of Count on M. Ratzetti, ex-president of the council.

Sir James Hudson is at present on a hunting party with Baron Ricobelli, in the Tuscan marshes belonging to the latter.

ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN THE DUTCH WEST INDIES.—An address, on the abolition of slavery in the Dutch West Indian colonies, has been presented to the King of the Netherlands by the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society. The subjoined is the official acknowledgment of its gracious reception by the King:—

Netherlands Legation, Feb. 11.

Gentlemen.—His Majesty the King of the Netherlands has desired me to convey to the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society his special thanks and acknowledgments for the address presented to his Majesty in the name of the committee, through the medium of the British Legation at the Hague, on the occasion of the abolition of slavery in the Netherland West Indies. The King has been pleased to accept this token of respect from the committee, with whose proceedings his Majesty has ever felt a warm sympathy; and his Majesty, in the fervent hope that the Almighty may favour their endeavours, assures the members of this humane association that the further labours of the

committee for the abolition of slavery will ever be most highly appreciated by his Majesty. I have much satisfaction in conveying to the committee these sentiments of my Sovereign, and have the honour to be, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

(Signed) Baron BENTINCK,
Minister of the Netherlands at the Court
of St. James's.

EMANCIPATION IN CUBA.—We find in the New Orleans *Delta* an announcement which will be read with satisfaction by all who feel an interest in the extinction of African slavery on the American continent. The *Delta* says, upon the authority of a letter which it publishes, that a large number of the planters and proprietors of Cuba waited upon General Serrano just previous to his retiring from the head of affairs, and solicited him to lay before the Queen some suggestions emanating from them looking to a project for the gradual emancipation of the slaves in Cuba. This late captain-general refused to do, not because he was opposed to the measure, but for the simple reason that it is contrary to the custom in that ancient monarchy for subjects to petition or lay their grievances or opinions on matters of state policy before the monarch. All acts done are, by a fiction of Spanish law, supposed to be favours spontaneously granted by the crown to the subject. The views of the petitioners, however, are laid before the Spanish Government indirectly, and it is hoped they may be acted upon by the Cortes. It is said that the first step will be to give freedom to the source of slavery by declaring the mothers or females free—freeing the mother, but excluding the father. Following this, greater changes will probably be made, having in view a heavier pressure for the extinction of the institution.

THE WAR IN CHINA.—The Calcutta *Englishman* observes of the war in China:—"We are now getting very well indeed into the growing Chinese imbroglio; further in, indeed, it strikes us, than we shall ever be able to back out without discomfort. We mentioned some months ago, that a large supply of muskets, with appropriate ammunition, had been sent from the arsenal in Fort William to China, to arm the Chinese native force acting against the Taiping rebels; and a few days ago we announced that the 22nd Punjab Infantry, when embarking at Shanghai to return to India, had made over their arms, &c., to the same embryo Chinese sepoy army. We may further mention that an additional supply of small-arm ammunition, 150,000 rounds of ball-cartridge, is about to be sent from Fort William by an early opportunity to Hong-Kong, and thence on to the north of China, and so into the bodies of the troublesome Taipings who may stand in their way. This looks like going into the Chinese business with spirit, and it is to be hoped that we may equally get out of it with honour and advantage. Still it must be obvious to everyone who cares to contemplate the matter, that what with the Imperial Government and army, our own naval and military forces, Captain Sherard Osborne's squadron, Colonel Burgevine's Chinese contingent, our own Chinese sepoy regiments, and the Taipings, not to mention the pirates and other such pleasing accessories, we have managed to get into about as pretty a galere in the 'flowery land' as it is well possible to conceive; and one, the probable ending of which no one can with any plausibility pretend correctly to foresee. It may, however, be observed, from the magnitude which hostile operations in China are assuming, that perhaps it would be as well to make the cartridges up to the even million for despatch in that direction, and even to keep a further reserve ready in case of necessity, which it is not unlikely will before long occur. The history of the steps by which we are gradually drawn into this Chinese complication will be a piece of curious reading hereafter. At present no one seems to know who is primarily responsible."

Court, Official, and Personal News.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

It is officially announced that on the arrival of her Royal Highness the Princess Alexandra of Denmark in London on the 7th March the route of the Royal procession from the Bricklayers' Arms station to Paddington will be as follows:—Bricklayers' Arms, Old Kent-road, Borough, London-bridge, King William-street, Mansion House, Cheapside, St. Paul's Churchyard, Temple-bar, Strand, Trafalgar-square, by the National Gallery, Pall-mall, St. James's-street, Piccadilly, Hyde-park-corner, through the park to the Marble Arch, Edgware-road, Grand Junction-road, past the Great Western Hotel, to the Paddington Station.

The Prince of Wales has ordered a medal to be struck to commemorate his marriage with the Princess Alexandra. It will be in gold, silver, and bronze.

The manufacture of wedding favours, to be worn on the occasion of the marriage of the Prince of Wales, is being carried on very extensively at Coventry, and a very large demand is anticipated.

The Princess Alexandra is to leave Copenhagen, en route for her new home, on the 28th inst. She will embark at Kiel on board the Danish steamer Sleswig, commanded by the King's adjutant. The dresses of her Royal Highness are being prepared in England, France, and Belgium, and the other articles of the outfit will be provided by Copenhagen tradesmen. The Crown Princess of Prussia will leave Berlin for Windsor on Thursday first.

The Queen has acceded to the generally expressed desire of the volunteers that they should be allowed to take part in the progress of the Princess Alexandra

through London on the 7th March next. The corps belonging to the city of London will be placed at different points within the City. The other corps who may desire to participate in the procession will be drawn up in Hyde-park.

Her Majesty, with the Prince of Wales, the Prince and Princess of Hesse, and other members of the Royal family and suite, arrived at Windsor Castle at a quarter past six on Wednesday evening. The Queen, although looking rather pale, probably from the fatigue of the journey, appeared to have somewhat regained her wonted spirits.

The morning papers are authorised to state that two drawing-rooms and two levees will be held, on the part of the Queen, at St. James's Palace, after Easter. Presentations may take place, under the usual regulations, at all these Courts, and will be considered as having been made to her Majesty.

It is understood to be the intention of her Majesty not to visit Buckingham Palace this year. Consequently there will not be any State balls or concerts, unless the Prince of Wales and his future consort are deputed to represent her Majesty.

It is stated that the Prince of Wales has appointed the Rev. H. M. Birch, rector of Prestwich, his first tutor, to be one of his chaplains.

The Hon. Evelyn Ashley, second son of the Earl of Shaftesbury, has been appointed Treasurer of the County Courts of Dorset. The appointment rests with the Premier, to whom Mr. Ashley, who is also a member of the bar, has been private Secretary for five years.

Prince Arthur is attending a course of laboratory and chemical instructions at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.

The Prince of Wales is paying a visit to the Marquis of Ailesbury, at Savernake-park, Wilts.

The Royal family has recently abandoned the very deep mourning they have worn since the death of the lamented Prince Consort, for gray, trimmed with black, though the Queen's domestic household still remain in deep mourning.

It is understood that Parliament will adjourn for the Easter holidays on or about Friday, March 27, for a fortnight.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer will not, it is expected, introduce his budget until after the Easter recess.

It is confidently stated that Mr. Serjeant Shee will have the offer of the first vacancy on the judicial bench.—*Morning Star*.

It is understood that amongst the friends of the Government who are to be raised to the peerage, is Colonel White, the father of the Member for Kidderminster, who, it will be recollect, was defeated in Longford in the course of last Session by Major O'Reilly.—*Globe*.

A Western Australian deputation waited upon the Duke of Newcastle on Thursday with a memorial, urging the continuance and extension of the system of transportation in that colony.

Sir William Armstrong has resigned the office of Ordnance Engineer and Superintendent of the Rifled Ordnance Construction, which he has held under Government for three or four years, at a salary of 2,000*l.* a-year, with the object of giving his undivided attention to his cannon-foundry at Elswick.

The Navy Estimates have been issued. They amount altogether to 10,736,032*l.* The sum voted last year was 11,794,305*l.*; the reduction, is therefore, upwards of a million.

Viscount Palmerston had a reception—the first this season—on Saturday night at Cambridge House, Piccadilly. Most of the leading members of the diplomatic corps, and the leading personages of society in town, graced her ladyship's salons by their presence.

Miscellaneous News.

THE PEABODY TRUSTEES.—It is announced, have purchased from the Crown a piece of land in Commercial-street, Spitalfields, and are preparing to erect dwellings for the poor thereon. The architect is Mr. Darbyshire. The trustees are in negotiation for other properties in various parts of London, which will be applied to a similar purpose.

SURREY CHAPEL POPULAR LECTURES.—On Monday night there was a crowded attendance to hear a lecture on "An Hour with our Great Grandfathers," by the Rev. W. Brock, of Bloomsbury. The address was in the rev. gentleman's usual able style, and was received with rapturous applause. The Rev. N. Hall presided, and announced that next Monday the usual temperance meeting would be held.

PENAL SERVITUDE.—The circular addressed by the Home Secretary to the judges, recorders, and chairmen of Quarter Sessions, with respect to the remission of sentences of penal servitude, has been published, and sets forth in detail the decision previously announced, and the grounds upon which it has been made. The circular states that the regulations published in the circular of 27th June, 1857, shall not apply to persons sentenced a second or any subsequent time to penal servitude.

SUBTERRANEAN LONDON.—The successful completion of the Metropolitan Railway seems to have given birth to a host of schemes of a similar kind. One line is proposed to run from the Great Northern terminus, at King's Cross, to Great Windmill-street, Haymarket. Then there is a line projected from Hammersmith to the city; the Great Eastern propose to have a new terminus in Finsbury-circus; another line is proposed to connect Kensington and Knightsbridge with the city, another is to run from

Hampstead to the Metropolitan Railway, and another from Albert station to "Mid-London." Bills for all these lines are now before Parliament, and several other schemes are about to be laid before the public.

THE ROUPELL CASE.—The *Morning Star* states on authority which it believes to be reliable that the Roupell case is likely to come again before the courts. According to the statement made by our contemporary, a person has come forward who declares that he saw old Mr. Roupell sign the deed of gift to William Roupell, which the latter subsequently swore he forged himself. This indeed would be a strange turn to this extraordinary case, but it has sufficient plausibility about it to gain credence in many quarters.

THE GEORGE GRISWOLD.—An address from the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce was on Monday presented to Captain Lunt, of the George Griswold, the vessel which a few days ago arrived with a large cargo of American contributions for the relief of the distressed operatives of Lancashire. The ceremony took place at St. George's Hall, which was crowded by an enthusiastic audience. The General Relief Committee have also determined to offer an address to the officers of the George Griswold, who are to be invited to a luncheon in the Town Hall, at Manchester, on the occasion of its presentation.

NUMBER OF PRISONERS IN ENGLAND AND WALES.—It appears from a parliamentary return just issued that the number of prisoners confined in the several prisons and reformatories in England and Wales on the 10th July, 1862, was—Males, 15,751; females, 4,204; total, 19,955. Of this number, 646, or 3.2 per cent. were brought up in workhouse or district schools. The 646 prisoners were in workhouse or district schools, for various periods, ranging from one day to five years and upwards; thus—22 had been in school for a period ranging from 1 to 6 days; 48 from 1 to 3 weeks; 214 from 1 to 11 months; 258 from 1 to 5 years; 79 upwards of 5 years; 25 had been in school, but the period is not stated.

ROYAL JENNERIAN AND LONDON VACCINE INSTITUTION.—The annual general meeting of this institution was held on Friday, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street; Mr. G. Rait in the chair. The report and balance-sheet, as read by Dr. Epps, and unanimously adopted, showed the utility and general recognition of the institution, which during the past year had afforded the means of protection from smallpox to 1,388, and supplied vaccine lymph for the protection of others in almost every part of the globe. The extent of its action would however be exhibited by the demands for vaccine virus, as shown in the numerous letters received accompanying the report.

In accordance with these the ichor or lymph had been forwarded both to the East and West Indies, as well as to numerous other places, the general results of which had been most successful. After some reference to the discontinuance of the pecuniary aid formerly afforded by the late East India Board, the report expressed much regret for the death of the late Marquis of Lansdowne and other valuable friends. Thanks were due to Mr. J. Epps, for his liberality in annulling a claim of 45*l.* The institution was still in debt to the amount of 221*l.* 14*s.*, which it was hoped some liberal-minded individuals would come forward and liquidate. The income had been 195*l.* 17*s.* 10*d.*; the expenditure 186*l.* 10*s.* 11*d.*, leaving a balance of 9*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* After thanks to Dr. Epps, the medical director, Mr. S. Bardouleau, hon. secretary, and other officers, a vote of condolence was passed to the family of the late Marquis of Lansdowne, the officers for the ensuing year were appointed, and the proceedings concluded with thanks to the chairman.

SPEECH OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.—The ceremony of presenting the freedom of the Fishmongers' Company to the Prince of Wales took place on Thursday, at their hall, in London, which was brilliantly decorated for the occasion. Mr. Cubitt, M.P., the ex-Lord Mayor, made a speech congratulating the Prince on his approaching marriage, and referring to the accomplishments and virtues of his betrothed. The Prince of Wales then rose and spoke as follows:—

Mr. Cubitt and Gentlemen,—It is with the greatest pleasure that I find myself called on to return my sincere thanks to you, Sir, as Prime Warden, and to the gentlemen of the Court of Assistants of this honourable and ancient Company of Fishmongers, for the complimentary and kind terms in which you have expressed yourselves towards me on the occasion of my taking up my freedom, and on your enrolling my name as a citizen with those illustrious personages and relatives who stand recorded in your annals. It cannot be otherwise than a source of pride, and of a still deeper feeling, that of affection, when I look on these walls, and see the forefathers of those whose son and grandson hopes to form one of your distinguished body; and to be thought worthy of occupying the place of that lamented parent whose loss the whole country has united in deplored, would be in itself an object of my highest ambition. Gentlemen, let me also tender to you my warmest acknowledgments for the manner in which you have offered your congratulations to me on my approaching marriage, and to the young princess who hopes so soon to adopt the proud title of an Englishwoman, and to prove herself a comfort to the Queen in her affliction.

His Royal Highness and suite then retired. A curious incident occurred during the delivery of Mr. Cubitt's speech. He forgot the name of the Princess whose virtues he was extolling, and, amidst the titters of the ladies, had to be reminded of it by some of the gentlemen who were sitting near him.

Messrs. Pellatt and Co. have just completed a service of engraved glass for the Prince of Wales, of rare merit and extraordinary beauty. It consists of upwards of 400 pieces, and is on public view.

Literature.

PROTESTANT NUNNERIES.*

This book appears very opportunely to remind us that there is within the State-Church other "instruction that causeth to err" beside that of the oft-denounced Essayists or of that scandal to all good Episcopalians Bishop Colenso. The Tractarian party have been to a great extent gainers by the panic about Rationalism. It is not only that public attention has been diverted from their peculiar doctrines and practices and that they have been able quietly to prosecute their own work, but they have sought to put themselves at the head of the opposing movement, and so to secure an amount of popular favour that has hitherto been denied them. Even the Evangelicals have often manifested a disposition to regard them with a more kindly spirit, and, for the sake of the help given against Dissenters and Neologians, to connive at the errors against which they were once wont to protest so vigorously. While Dr. Pusey is furnishing his weapons for an attack on Mr. Jowett in the Vice-Chancellor's Court, and Archdeacon Denison is glorying in his triumph over Bishop Colenso in the Convocation, there are many who are prone to forget the true character of these new champions of the faith, and so to accord them a sympathy which would be withheld if there was any right appreciation of the tendencies of their own teachings. This book will do good service by exposing the Romanising spirit and subtle workings of a party, whose position in the Establishment is hardly less anomalous and whose influence is not less to be dreaded than that of the men whom they assail with such vehemence. The Establishment is certainly not in an enviable condition. According to innumerable witnesses, both of the High and Low Church, Rationalist teachers, with a Bishop at their head, are leading many of her best young men into infidelity. According to Miss Goodman, Puseyite doctors, with their female allies, are conducting some of her most pious and devout young women to Rome, and this is the Church which, according to Mr. Adderley, "has maintained the religion of this country as a national religion and stamped it "with a character which has brought the blessing of God upon it."

The details of this book are so startling that we were, at first, inclined to question their truthfulness, and to suppose that some discontented sister had here given vent to her own personal feeling by exaggerated attacks on those with whom she had quarrelled. We are bound to say that there is no foundation for any charge of the kind. Miss Goodman is, evidently, a lady of high principle, great intelligence, and earnest devotion to the Established Church. She is not an extreme Protestant, and, in fact, continues still to have strong faith in the idea of religious sisterhoods, believing that the remedy for the evils that have been wont to arise in them is to be found in episcopal supervision. So far from showing any resentment to Miss Sellon, she speaks of her personally in language of cordial admiration, bearing ungrudging testimony to her "earnest sincerity; " "utter fearlessness; " her indomitable will; her "perseverance; " her scorn of pretence; her entire "impartiality; " her largeness of soul; her high "intellect; " her courteous, winning, and graceful "manners." She attacks no individuals, but only the "foolish and pernicious system of elevating "the commands of those in authority above the "law of God given in Holy Scripture and written "in the heart." Even her opposition to the system is not at all destructive in its character, for she would reform, not abolish, the sisterhoods. Her narrative is not at all artistic in its character, but it certainly bears on it the mark of truthfulness. A little natural scepticism may arise as to some of the alleged facts, which she has learned by report only, but the very care with which she specifies the evidence she has for such statements, induces the more confidence in those which she makes on her own authority. There is no desire to accumulate horrors, and not the slightest trace of prurient scandal. The work is the production of one who has a sincere faith in the value of these sisterhoods, and who, in pointing out the evils that have crept into them, is simply desirous that institutions of whose capacity for usefulness she has formed so high an estimate should be freed from excrescences which interfere with their free and healthy action. We differ very widely from her opinions—we believe the faults to be inseparable from the system, and that all the good might be accomplished by less objectionable means; but

we must give her full credit, not only for the depth of her own convictions, but also for the frankness with which she has uttered them, and above all for the self-sacrifice with which, in a life of benevolent toil, she has sought to reduce her own views to practice. Despite occasional looseness in arrangement, she has given us a book of considerable interest, full of new and important information, diversified with several very thrilling incidents, and marked throughout by great suggestiveness. Its facts and opinions certainly deserve the careful attention of all who are solicitous as to the character which the Anglican Church is to assume.

The movement of which we have here the record is, indeed, one of the deepest significance. Twenty-five of these sisterhoods, besides their branches, scattered throughout the country, cannot fail to exert an important influence, either for good or evil, and from the details here given, we fear that the last will largely predominate. No doubt, the motives which lead many to seek this kind of life are most pure and commendable, and a few of the sisterhoods preserve their true character, and are nothing more than associations of devout women for works of Christian usefulness. It were too unjust to deny that by their works of faith and charity many of these "sisters" have not only done much to mitigate human suffering, but also to break down that spirit of distrust with which Christianity is too often regarded by the classes among whom their ministry of mercy is prosecuted. The account of the work done by the Devonport sisters is very striking. Miss Sellon, their lady superior, is evidently a woman of great practical sagacity, and the principles she laid down for the guidance of her "children" in their labour may furnish most valuable hints to those who are most opposed to her ecclesiastical opinions. The discouragement of any attempt to patronise the poor, and the cultivation of habits of thoughtful politeness in all dealings with them; the exercise of charity in regard to their failures, and the manifestation of a temper ever trustful and ready to hope for the best; the importance attached to refinement, culture, and taste as influences to affect even the lowest classes; and the effort to foster a spirit of courageous self-control, all mark a woman who had a good understanding of human nature. She had a very clear conception of the work the sisters had to do, and took care that they were not led into a sphere for which they were naturally unfitted. We have met with zealous Protestant ladies, who seemed to think that their duty was to collect assemblages and preach the Gospel to them. These female orators would have found little favour in the eyes of the Devonport Superior. "It would seem," says our authoress, "to be Miss Sellon's impression that a preaching, arguing woman was a most uncomfortable spectacle for contemplation; while the example of a pure, quiet woman, working humbly for her Lord, was as weighty a sermon as could be preached, whether addressed to men or women." Which opinion we most heartily endorse, feeling, also, that there are many male preachers to whom it is just as applicable.

But, while recognising the existence of these better elements, we cannot but see the existence of great danger, and it is evident that these dangers are not at all imaginary. The severing of home ties, and the transfer of the reverence and affection God designed for parents to strangers—the absurd ideas of obedience to the superior, and of its value as a Christian virtue—the attempt to trample out some of the noblest feelings of the nature, and the utter indifference to many obligations which ought to be held sacred—the exaggerated and mischievous importance attached to ascetic practices, are all most serious evils, to whose prevalence we have here the fullest testimony. It is clear, too, that these monastic tendencies are ever being more developed, and, in fact, we cannot at all wonder that it should be so. The spirit which leads a young lady to enter into one of these orders at all, prompts her to select that which has the highest reputation for saintliness, and the knowledge of this acts, perhaps unconsciously, on the directors of these institutions, who are naturally desirous to maintain the repute and increase the numbers of their several houses. The injunctions constantly given on the subject, the kind of reading to which the sisters are accustomed, the praises ever bestowed on one who has practised some special acts of self-mortification, and the honour given to the "enclosed orders" set apart for perfect seclusion, and which are connected with most of the houses, must serve to stimulate the same feeling. As the result, many of these homes have adopted the austerities of the most rigid monastic rule, and bear so close a resemblance to their Romanist model that it would be difficult to point out any distinction between them. Thus we have the order of the "Sacred Heart," each of whom has a private mark, chosen from one of the symbols of our Lord's passion. Of

this sisterhood we have the following startling account:—

"Those of the community belonging to the order of the 'Sacred Heart' are termed 'Nuns' by the Sisters of Mercy, and the place of their habitation a 'Nunnery.' As I have before observed, the 'Order of the Sacred Heart,' or, as it is often termed, the 'Order of the love of Jesus,' is strictly 'enclosed,' and their time is supposed to be spent in almost perpetual prayer, for the living or the dead, according as their prayers are solicited. When at Plymouth in 1862, the prayers of the 'Companions of the love of Jesus' were asked for the soul of a lady of rank, who formerly belonged to the association. Thus the sisters of this band live in community, and are cloistered; but the 'companions' may live in the world, or in other religious houses; every month they are told what is to be the subject of their prayers, and at what hour they are to be offered up. The whole twenty-four hours are divided out into what are termed 'watches,' and the night watches are kept by the sisters in this manner: one rises from 10 to 11, then she retires, and another takes the watch from 11 to 12, and so on through the night. Thus at one time Sister C watched from 9 to 10, having gone to bed with the household at 7; from 10 to 11 Sister L; from 11 to 12 Sister H; from 12 to 1 Sister F; from 1 to 2 Sister E; from 2 to 3 name unknown, and at 3 all assembled for matins in the chapel. Moreover, the watchers join in prayer seven times in the day with the Mother of the Three Rules, though they may be separated by distance; and on Thursday night every week the 'companions' unite in prayer, though separated from one another, from midnight until 1 o'clock, in memory of the sacred hour of suffering intercession of their Lord in Gethsemane. The Feast of the Name of Jesus (Aug. 7) is to be especially noted by the 'Company of the love of Jesus.'

Whither all this tends it is not difficult to discover, and we are not at all surprised to learn that many Romish doctrines and practices find a place in these convents. The invocation of angels and saints, the worship of the Virgin, and Confession, are distinctly specified; and Miss Goodman even goes so far as to assert that she knew a case in which an Anglican clergyman had administered Extreme Unction. Yet Dr. Pusey, the great champion of orthodoxy at Oxford, appears as the abettor of this secret departure from Protestant faith. No one has given more sanction to these sisterhoods, or has done more to impart a conventual character to their discipline. After taking a large discount from some of the anecdotes here told of him, there is a sufficient residuum to show how much more nearly he approaches the character of a Roman Catholic priest than that of a Protestant professor. His notion as to the sacredness belonging to the obligations contracted by those who enter into one of these orders, and of the awful guilt that she would incur if she returned to the world, is essentially Popish in its character, and appears to us as far removed from the standards of his Church as any of Mr. Jowett's speculations. Even the Bishop of Oxford appears to feel that his friend has gone too far on this point, and gave a wise caution at the Oxford Congress, protesting against the adoption of the word "religious" to describe life in a sisterhood as intended to convey the notion that "God can be better served in the unmarried sisterhood than in the blessed and holy state of matrimony." It cannot be doubted, however, that this is the idea that lies at the root of these institutions, that it is heartily received by the majority of their members, and that those who enter them with views as sober as those of our authoress are the rare exception.

The vow of "holy obedience," as demanded by Miss Sellon and other superiors from their "children," is of the most extravagant, not to say impious, character, and the way in which it is often administered makes it still more objectionable. This vow requires nothing less than the absolute subjection of the whole nature to the superior, who is blasphemously said to "bear the image of the Divine power of God, which he vouchsafes to imprint upon her. And He will surely require it at your hands, if ye despise his authority in them." Sisters are enjoined to obey her without "any murmur or sign of hesitation or repugnance," and to "banish from their mind any question as to the wisdom of the command given." The words of the vow are sufficiently simple and comprehensive:—"I promise to obey you, my spiritual mother, in all things as our rule doth direct"; the last clause being sometimes varied to "in all things." An additional awfulness is thrown around this promise by its being exacted in a church, on the steps of the altar. Of the effect on the minds of the young we leave our readers to judge. "It," says Miss Goodman, "places the youthful mind and susceptible feelings of the postulant at the mercy of the matured and acute intellect and firm will of the superior; who also commands the combined influences of zealous subordinates, actuated by a reverential awe of the superior, by a conscientious sense of duty imposed upon them by their vows of obedience, and it may be also by a fanatical zeal. At the same time, any counter-acting influences of parental counsel and suasion, of filial and family affection, may be wholly excluded; and, the sacred ties of home

* *Sisterhoods in the Church of England.* By M. GOODMAN. London: Smith, Elder and Co.

"and kindred thus severed, the votress, finding resistance unavailable, may sink into a passive hopeless state of obedience; or, if of an enthusiastic and impulsive temperament, become fanatical, and seek consolation for the loss of her home, relations, and friends, in the unscrupulous exercise of delegated power over others of the sisterhood." We should have liked to quote illustrations in proof of this, some tragic and others irresistibly comic, from the volume itself, but our limits forbid. We can only commend the work itself to our readers that they may learn how powerful and subtle an agency is at work in the very heart of English society to undermine the principles of our Protestantism.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Meteorology. By Sir JOHN F. W. HERSCHEL, Bart., K.H., &c., &c. From the *Encyclopædia Britannica*. (Edinburgh: A. and C. Black.) A popular knowledge of meteorology hardly suffices for the review of a work on that subject by so great a writer as Sir John Herschel. The phenomena which are grouped under the heads of the weather, the seasons, and the climate, present problems of a very complex and intractable order to those who regard them scientifically; and their difficulties have occasioned the abandonment of the deductive mode of philosophising—from sheer inadequacy of methods of calculation which have been signal success in other branches of science—and have compelled a simply inductive course of inquiry. Thus, though the more important facts and broad features of meteorological science can be rationally and satisfactorily accounted for, and referred to the recognised operations of physical agents: yet (says Sir John Herschel), "when we would follow out the results of their actions in number, weight, and measure, and as exhibited in specified time and place"—in short, in all that concerns numerical valuation—"Meteorology is pre-eminently a science of detail, and one in which all the subordinate laws which are susceptible of numerical statement have to be made out by laborious and continued observation carried on in every region of the globe." Sir John seems unwilling that this revised and somewhat extended edition of his *Britannica* article should be regarded as a complete treatise on the subject. And yet it has a completeness, and scientific fulness and accuracy, with which probably no other treatise on the subject could compare. "The results of observation, accumulated in masses, and discussed by the application of those powerful and refined processes of calculation which modern invention has devised, . . . and presented, in the form of mean or average conclusions, each expressing some general fact or law of progressive change";—such is the character of the material: and the method pursued is, "to pass in review the agents concerned and the laws which regulate their mutual reactions,—then to apply this knowledge to the explanation of meteorological phenomena, in the order of their importance and natural sequence—and finally to afford as complete a view as a mere sketch will allow of those subordinate laws of periodic fluctuation which meteorologists are agreed upon, a knowledge of which, as modified by geographical situation, constitutes the science of climatology." The work is, of course, not one for the general reader; as it consists largely of pure scientific statement, and mathematical detail. But certain sections contain matters that are easily reducible to a form which would be of universal interest,—and, if our space permitted, we might string together facts and ascertained principles as to atmospheric electricity, fogs, winds, and the optical phenomena of meteorology, which would not be without novelty even to the well-informed, or without corrective use to popular misapprehensions of these common things. The publishers have rendered a real service to science, in this case as in others, by not suffering a treatise so valuable to remain as an *Encyclopedic* article, but issuing it in a convenient form for educational use, and at a very reasonable price.

—**The Song of Songs.** A Revised Translation, with Introduction and Commentary. By J. F. THRUPP, M.A., Author of "An Introduction to the Study and Use of the Psalms." (Cambridge: Macmillan and Co.) Mr. Thrupp's object is "to unfold the meaning of one of the least appreciated portions of Holy Scripture." He believes that the traditional interpretation of the Song of Solomon, which has, as he thinks, "ministered to the edification of nearly fifty generations of Christians," will be found to be "borne out by the results of the investigations of modern scholarship." That there may be no suspicion of evading any question which literalists of various grades have urged against the spiritual interpretation, he has attempted to construct "the surest attainable foundation" for his work; and has made plentiful reference to the Hebrew original, and has discussed the chief counter-theories of expositors. He, of course, comes chiefly into collision with the view of Mr. Ginsburg, the latest and one of the most able commentators on the "Song." That author has maintained that it is worthy of Divine inspiration to teach, by this composition, the proper purity and strength of faithful love; but Mr. Thrupp upholds against him the interpretation which has "the authority of the general consent of the Christian Church," and declares that "the more closely the Song be examined, the less compatible will

"its language and structure prove with any other theme than that of the mutual love of the Incarnate Son of God and his redeemed Church." Many of Mr. Thrupp's criticisms of Mr. Ginsburg seem to us without point or force; and it is unfair to bring him in as the associate of men "mainly of the Neologian school." Mr. Thrupp is himself liable to a similar charge, on the ground of denying Solomon's authorship of the Song: and it is scarcely an abatement of his almost sarcastic rejection of the authorship of one who had peculiarly "Solomon's experiences in connexion with earthly love," that he admits the presence of "the historical Solomon," "to a certain extent, to the poet's gaze"; or that, after such contempt for Solomon's form of love, he should allow him to be "a true and important type of Christ," and justify "the poet" in "constituting him the figure around which cluster all his conceptions of the future Redeemer." Mr. Thrupp has only an arbitrary conjecture to offer as to the real authorship,—"we have no warrant in ascribing it to any prophet or other sacred writer known to us by name"—granted;—but whence then its reception into the Canon?—in all likelihood because it proceeded from a member of some "recognised sacred body"—say "a member of one of the prophetic schools." It is distinctively, he says, "the most excellent of Songs," neither for "the beauty of its natural descriptions nor the moral sentiments which it unfolds": but as "depicting the love of Christ and his Church"; which, it is maintained, is directly sanctioned by its parallelism with Psalm xlvi., its correspondences with Hosea, its points of contact with the remarkable allegory in Ezekiel xvi., and the use of its images in the Apocryphal book of Esdras ii. All these supports seem to us very feeble and uncertain; and quite incapable of bearing the strain our author's interpretation puts on them. But Mr. Thrupp goes farther still from sound and satisfying exposition, when he allows the historic-prophetic character of the book; and insists that those who have asserted "a certain 'Historical order' of the represented relations of Christ and the Church" "have erred rather in the application of their fundamental principle than in the maintenance of it." His first canon is, "that the events of Israelitish history could only be introduced into it so far as they bore directly on the hopes that were entertained of the coming of Christ at the time that the Song was written": his second, "that the interest with which the author of the Song would anticipate the details of the evangelic record would be immeasurably greater than that which he would feel for any details of the prospect of the Church after Christ's ascension." These, and such like, are not "canons" at all; but private prepossessions. Mr. Thrupp, obedient to these prepossessions, abandons all interpretations which include details of the post-apostolic history of the Church, but finds passages which set forth the passion of Christ, the descent of the Spirit, the longing of the Church for the second advent, the heralding of the Gospel, &c.; and he finds the order of events delineated to be "generally, but not exclusively, chronological." He then recognises that "that which has passed and still passes in the history of the Church is largely repeated in the experiences of individual souls"; and therefore allows that the view of those who "have beheld in the Song a picture of the communing of the individual believer with his Redeemer" cannot be "fundamentally illegitimate or unjust,"—but thinks such a view belongs "rather to the province of application than of strict interpretation." We frankly confess that of the commentary itself we have no good word to say—except, that it exhibits the best that moderate learning, great ingenuity, and tender piety can do for the Christian allegorical interpretation. But we cannot readily accept such expositions as the following, on the Bride's teeth—and most of Mr. Thrupp's unfoldings are like it:—"Thy teeth are like a flock of shearing-sheep, all appearing in pairs"; (c. iv. 2)—is thus interpreted: "The two beauties for which the Bride's teeth are commended are their whiteness and their regularity. Now, by the teeth of the Church seems most properly to be represented her power of rightly dividing that word of truth which is her bread of life; that so being not thrust down her hardly and crudely, but rather being thoroughly and effectually digested, it may serve to the ultimate sustenance and invigoration of all her members. And this power is obviously one which rests mainly with the ministers of the Church. . . . The whiteness of the teeth will denote the purity with which the dividers of the word of truth are to discharge their commission; not handling the word of God deceitfully, nor polluting or adding to it as it passes through them. The regularity of the teeth will denote the regular organisation of Church ministers, all helping each other and working with each other in the discharge of their office. As regards the distribution of the teeth in pairs, it is to be remembered that Christ, when he sent out his apostles, and again when he sent out his seventy disciples, sent them out in each case two and two." It is wanting to the completeness and force of this interpretation that it should be further carried out; and that the organisation of the ministry represented by the regularity of the Bride's teeth, should be declared, in virtue of the pairs of teeth, to imply for each congregation a rector, or vicar, and a curate. More extravagant things still are to be found in Mr. Thrupp's book: and only its seriousness and

devoutness save it from ridicule. But it is, in our judgment, a grave and mournful thing, that the Bible should be exposed to contempt by the arbitrary and fanciful treatment of any portion of its contents.—*Thoughts of Sunshine in Sorrow; and Pilgrim Thoughts.* (London: Nisbet and Co. Norwich: H. Pigg.) These "simple thoughts," we are told, were "originally penned to cheer the silent Sabbath of a sick one whom Jesus loves"; and are offered to her companions in tribulation with the earnest prayer that they may "prove a 'cup of cold water' to more of his afflicted ones." They have all the marks of large and varied experience in the spiritual life, of a true and loving devotion, of a bright and confident hope. The "Thoughts of Sunshine" are based on passages of Scripture; and are really thoughts, that have a true life in them, and that illustrate the sacred word, while ministering strength and comfort to the sorrowful heart. They are written without a trace of pretentiousness, and apparently with an outflowing and pure earnestness that is very engaging. The "Pilgrim Thoughts" are verses; and have much genuine poetic feeling, and no little of that peculiar sentiment that prevails so sweetly in Miss. Waring's hymns,—although, occasionally, they are far from perfect in rhythmical grace. The simple, holy, intensely living quality of the book can hardly fail to make it welcome and helpful, as the voice of a sympathetic friend and experienced counsellor, in hours of sickness and sorrow.—*The Works of Thomas Goodwin, D.D.* Volume V. (Nichol's Series of Standard Puritan Divine.) This fifth volume of Goodwin—the eleventh of the series—needs only to be announced, and the enterprise of the publisher to be once more commended to general encouragement. The volume contains the treatises on Christ the Mediator—The Supereminence of Christ above Moses—Reconciliation by Christ's Death—The One Sacrifice—and Three Sermons on Heb. i. 2.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Congregational Psalmist. Jackson, Walford, and Hodder—Proceedings of the International Temperance Convention. Job Caudwell—Goodwin's Works. Vol. 5. Nichol—Chronicles of Carlingford. Two Vols. Blackwood—Theodore Parker's Works. Vol. 1. Trübner—Rev. G. S. Drew on Colebrooke. Bell—Rask on the Patriarchs. Trübner—Old Friends and What Became of Them. Lancashire Homes and What Alas! Them. Seed for Springtime, by W. Landells. Everyday Religion, ditto. Manxland: a Tale. By B. Stowell. Divine Human in Scripture. The Foggy Night at Oxford. A Morning beside the Lake of Galilee. Nisbet and Co.—Retribution. By Mrs. C. L. Balfour. Scottish Temperance League—The Lunar World. By Josiah Crampton, M.A. A and G. Black—On Auricular Confession. Rev. D. Aoe. Westerton—Rachel, or Little Faults. By Charlotte Elizabeth. S. W. Partridge—Memorials. Rev. James Bennett, D.D. Hamilton—The Prayer-book as it might be. By Richard Bingham, M.A. Wertheim and Co.—Macnaughton's Christianity and its Evidences. Lawrence Stanilby; or, Thirty-five Years of Bush Life in Australia. Longman—Madagascar, its Mission, and its Martyrs. Snow—The History of the Moravians. Religious Tract Society—Friendless and Helpless. Prayers, Texts, and Hymns for those in Service. Faithfull—The Prayer that Teaches to Pray. Dods. Maclaren—Poems from the Dawn of Literature to the Year 1699. Maclaren—Professor Huxley on the Origin of Species. Hardwicks—A Trip to Constantinople. J. Shepherd—Is the Bible True? Seeley—Letters on Transportation. By William Howitt. Bennett—Our Military Administration, past and present. Stanford—Antiquity of Man. By Sir Charles Lyell. Murray—Miscellaneous Essays. By W. Kirkus, LL.D. Longman—Twenty-nine Years in the West Indies. By Rev. H. M. Waddell. Nelson and Sons—Better Times Coming. Tressider—The Religion of School Life. By D. Cornish. Freeman—Four Centuries of Modern Europe. By T. B. Bishop. Freeman—God's Glory in the Heavens. By Principal Leitch. Strahan—Iber Cantabrigiensia Part 2. Parker, Son, and Bourne—Driftwood, Seaweed, and Fallen Leaves. Two Vols. Hurst and Blackett—The American Question, &c. Low, Son, and Co.—The Destiny of the Human Race. Simpkin—Life and Work of Earnest Men. T. Nelson and Sons—Our Feathered Families: Game and Water-Birds. Hogg and Sons—Romanism and Rationalism, &c. By Dr. Cairns. Strahan.

Gleanings.

It is expected that the sum of 200,000*l.* will be included in the forthcoming estimates for 1862-3, as a grant to the Volunteers.

A fire, attended with the loss of six lives, occurred in Liverpool on Saturday. The scene of the melancholy event was a house in Oriel-street, Vauxhall-road.

QUITZ SETTLED.—An editor of an Ohio paper writes to his subscribers:—"We hope our friends will overlook our irregularities for the past few weeks. We are now permanently located in the county gaol, with sufficient force to ensure the regular issue of our paper for the future."

A new rupee for India has been issued, but does not seem to give satisfaction. The *Calcutta Englishman* says—"Nothing more ugly or more contemptible has ever been seen in this country. The royal arms are altogether wanting. Her Majesty is represented, not in her robes of state, but absolutely in native costume."

A LITTLE MOONSHINE.—A learned lord, recently speaking on the salary attached to a rumoured appointment to a new judgeship, said it was all moonshine. Lord Lyndhurst in a dry sarcastic way remarked, "M.y be so; but I have a strong notion that, moonshine though it be, you would like to see the first quarter of it."

A STORY THAT NEEDS CONFIRMATION.—It is stated that Fleurie, the Emperor Napoleon's equerry, announced his intention of coming over to England

and challenging Mr. Kinglake for his unfavourable photographs of the Emperor and himself, also that if Mr. Kinglake would not fight, he should be personally assaulted in Pall Mall. The Emperor got to hear of the affair, however (perhaps it was intended that he should), and he put a summary end to his squerry's resolves.

REMEDIY FOR BURNS.—A correspondent of the *Times* recommends for this purpose the common whitening (washed chalk) of the shops, which is so generally used as a domestic polishing ingredient in almost every kitchen. He adds:—"Wh-n I aver that this remedy by far exceeds all others. I speak from the experience arising out of more than thirty years' acquaintance with it. In the course of this period I have let no opportunity slip of testing its value, not only on my own person, but in respect to all over whom my advice or example has had any influence, and, I may add, in every instance with an immediate alleviation of pain and comparative immunity from after consequences."

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S FACE is one to which as yet no justice has been done by painters and photographers. It is a pretty face on paper and canvas, but nothing more, and it looks unmeaning almost in its extreme juvenility. The living original is very different indeed from the *carte-de-visite* portrait. The blue eyes look serious almost to sadness; the small mouth and high forehead beam with intelligence, and the whole expression of the face is that of the thoughtful and earnest man rather than that of the growing youth. The Prince of Wales has the features of his late father even more than of his mother. He has that look of extreme modesty which so much characterised the Prince Consort; that same refined outline of the lower face, denoting the absence of grosser passions; and those same small, but not narrow lips, given to thinking rather than talking. The visible modesty, nay, shyness, is striking in one whose crown lay in his cradle.—*Spectator*.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY IN PHOTOGRAPHY.—Mr. John Poeney, of Dorchester, who was awarded a silver medal and 400*l.* for his "carbon process" by the Photographic Society of France, has just taken out a patent for an important improvement, by which he has brought ordinary printers' ink into the service of photography. This ink is mixed with certain chymicals, and spread completely over the paper intended to be submitted to the action of the rays of light through a "negative"; and the secret consists in rendering it so sensitive that an indelible photograph may be fixed on the paper, leaving the other portions so free as to be easily washed off. The time required for exposure is comparatively short, and the advantage is, besides that of permanence, the fact of the subject being fixed, developed, and, as it were, completed, without the various manipulations required under the old system. The superfluous ink is removed by spirits in ten minutes or a quarter of an hour, displaying a picture for delicacy of tone, beautiful gradation of light and shade, and minuteness of detail, fully equal to anything heretofore obtained in photographic printing.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

GREEN.—Dec. 25, at Rawdon-street, Calcutta, the wife of Mr. Randle E. Green, of a daughter.
GOWARD.—Feb. 10, at Market Harborough, the wife of T. G. Goward, jun., of a daughter.
ANTHONY.—Feb. 11, at Hill-park-crescent, Plymouth, the wife of the Rev. F. R. Anthony, M.A., of a daughter.
CUNLIFFE.—Feb. 12, at Leyton, the wife of Roger Cunliffe, jun., of a daughter.
PAYNE.—Feb. 17, Mrs. W. Payne, Market-place, Wallingford, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

HUNT-UNDERWOOD.—Jan. 27, at Carr's-lane Chapel, Birmingham, by the Rev. Mr. Dale, Mr. H. Clarkson Hunt to Miss M. Underwood, eldest daughter of Mr. Richard Underwood of Liverpool.
PHILLIPS WILLS.—January 31, at Arley Chapel, Bristol, by the Rev. Samuel Luke, of Clifton, William Phillips, Esq., Belgrave-road, London, to Mrs. Wills, of Windsor House, Clifton.

VYSE-TINSLEY.—Feb. 8, at Great George-street Chapel, Liverpool, by Rev. Dr. Raffles, Mr. Thos. Vyse, of Hanley, to Mrs. Ann Tinsley, of Liverpool.

HOWDEN-TAPLEY.—Feb. 5, at Great George-street Chapel, Liverpool, by the Rev. E. Mellor, Mr. Henry Howden, eldest son of the late Mr. Thomas Howden, Willow-bank, to Elizabeth Janet, only daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Tapley, builder, Seymour-street, Liverpool.

WANLESS-BARLOW.—Feb. 10, at St. Paul's Independent Chapel, Wigan, by Rev. W. Roaf, Mr. Robert Wanless, to Miss Barlow, both of Pemberton.

HURNDALL-WOTTON.—Feb. 10, at Paul's Meeting, Tattenhall, by the Rev. William Guest, John Sutcliffe, younger son of the Rev. W. A. Hurndall, late of Bishop's Stortford, to Mary Evans, third daughter of Mr. John Wotton, builder, late of Chelton Fitzpaine, Devon.

JAMIESON-WEIR.—Feb. 10, at the United Presbyterian church, Bradford, by the Rev. D. Sine, Mr. Gavin Jamieson, of Sydney, Australia, to Jane Kennedy, daughter of Mr. Robert Weir, of Vancouver's Island.

THOMAS-NICHOLLS.—Feb. 12, at the Tabernacle, Wotton-under-Edge, by the Rev. J. Glanville, Mr. David Jones, Thomas of Bristol, to Jane, youngest daughter of Mr. Joseph Nicholls, of Wotton-under-Edge.

PRIOR-SODEN.—Feb. 12, at Woodcote, Oxon, Mr. Holland Prior of Ettrick Lodge, Sutton, to Clarissa Harriet, younger daughter of J. B. E. Soden, Esq., R.N., of the Folly, Woodcote. No card-sent.

JEFFERY-GIDLEY.—Feb. 16, at the Independent Chapel, Norsey-street, Plymouth, by the Rev. Charles Wilson, M.A., the Rev. William Jeffery, Baptist minister, Torrington, Devon, eldest son of William Jeffery, Esq., of Chiselhurst, Kent, to Catherine, fifth daughter of the late Gustavus Gidley, Esq., of Plymouth.

DEATHS.

JONES.—Jan. 3, at Bombay, Joseph Brown, beloved and only son of John and Anna Jones, of Holloway, and grandson of the Rev. Joseph Mason, late of Mile-end New-town Chapel, in the twenty-fifth year of his age, leaving his parents and an only sister, with many dear friends, to mourn his irreparable loss.

COOMBER.—Jan. 29, at Blakeney, aged eighty-five, Mr. T. R. Coomber, much respected and deservedly esteemed. It may be truly said of him—He visited the poor and needy, and kept himself unspotted from the world.

BROWN.—Feb. 2, suddenly, at his residence, 10, Clarence-terrace, Regent's-park, to the inexpressible loss and grief of his wife, Joseph Brown, Esq.

BETTS.—Feb. 9, at Peckham, Benjamin Douglas, the youngest child of the Rev. R. W. Betts, of Hanover Chapel, aged one year and three months.

EAMES.—Feb. 9, at Grange-villas, Dalston, Miss Anne Eames, late of Upper Clapton, aged forty-nine.

SPARROW.—Feb. 12, at Brampton-park, Hunta, the Lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow, aged eighty-eight.

GRIFFITHS.—Feb. 13, at 28, Thornhill-crescent, Barnsbury (the residence of her uncle, Rev. John Young, LL.D.) Helen Robertson, the eldest and beloved daughter of E. T. Griffiths, Esq., in her seventh year, eleven days after her eldest brother, in his fifth year.

WEBB.—Feb. 14, at Coombs Tannery, near Stowmarket, deeply regretted, Edward, second son of Lancaster Webb, Esq., aged twenty-two years.

ALEXANDER.—Feb. 15, at 1, Regent's-park-gardens, Primrose-hill, Robert Howard, second son of Josiah Alexander, Esq., aged five years.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's *Gazette*.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Feb. 11.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ..	£27,820,225	Government Debt £11,015,100
		Other Securities .. 8,634,900
		Gold Bullion ... 13,170,225
		Silver Bullion ... —
	£27,820,225	£27,820,225

RANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,555,000	Government Securities
Rest .. 3,365,439	.. £11,043,079
Public Deposits .. 6,957,808	Other Securities .. 10,148,317
Other Deposits .. 13,596,356	Notes .. 7,989,175
Seven Day and other Bills .. 613,404	Gold & Silver Coin 900,426
£39,081,007	£39,081,007

Feb. 12, 1862. W. MILLER, Deputy Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—**FLESH AND BLOOD.**—It is incontestable that the soundness and firmness of the flesh depend upon the strength and purity of the blood. These Pills, on this account have come into such universal favour, no other medicines being able to approach them as purifying agents. For the same reason, Holloway's Pills are admirably adapted for the young and weakly, to whom tainted blood is a fruitful source of suffering. This medicine is a mild aperient and reviving tonic, and does its wholesome work quietly, seasonably, and completely. Occasional doses of these Pills keep the digestion in good order, strengthen the stomach, and set the liver right when its functions are deranged by cold, excess, or other causes.—[Advertisement]

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Feb. 16.

The supply of wheat from the home counties to this morning's market was rather larger than usual; the trade, however, has ruled exceedingly dull, and the few sales made were at about the rates of this day se'nnight. Foreign descriptions support the currency of last Monday. The trade for barley is firm, at fully the rates of this day week. Peas and beans a steady sale, without alteration in value. The return shows another small arrival of foreign oats for the past week, and there is very little in addition this morning. The wind at present being favourable, the dealers hold off from purchasing, in the expectation of further supplies in a day or two. The trade to-day has been slow to necessitous buyers, and prices are without alteration.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, Feb. 16.

There was a fair average supply of foreign beasts and calves on offer in our market to-day; of foreign sheep, limited. Sales progressed slowly, and last week's currencies were with difficulty supported. The arrivals of beasts fresh up this morning from our own grazing districts, as well as from Scotland, were moderately good, both as to number and quality. The attendance of both town and country buyers was far from numerous, and the demand for all breeds of beasts ruled inactive. For the prime Soots, cross-breds, and shorthorns last Monday's prices were mostly supported; otherwise, the quotations had a drooping tendency. The extreme values commanded for the best Soots, &c., did not exceed 4*s* 10*d*. of shorthorns 1*s* 6*d* per Siba. The receipts from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire comprised 2,160 Soots, shorthorns, and crosses; from other parts of England, 850 various breeds; from Scotland, 500 Soots and crosses; and from Ireland, 150 oxen and heifers. Although the supply of sheep was very limited, the mutton trade was in a sluggish state; nevertheless, the quotations were firmly supported—the best Downs and half-bred having sold at 6*s* per Siba. There was a trifling improvement in the condition of most breeds. The supply of lambs was moderate, and changed hands slowly, at from 7*s* to 1*s* 4*d* per Siba. We have to report a slow demand for calves at Thursday's decline in the quotations of 2*s* per Siba. The top figure was 3*s* 4*d* per Siba. The trade for pigs was slow, at about late rates.

Per Siba, to sink the Offal.

a. d.	a. d.	a. d.	a. d.
Int. coarse beasts .. 3 4 to 3 6	Prime Southdown .. 5 8 to 6 0		
Second quality .. 3 8 4 6	Lambs .. 0 0 0 0		
Prime large oxen .. 4 2 4 6	Lge. coarse calves .. 4 2 4 10		
Prime Soots, &c. .. 4 8 4 10	Prime small .. 5 0 5 4		
Large inf. sheep .. 3 6 4 0	Large hogs .. 3 8 4 4		
Second quality .. 4 2 4 10	Neatam. porkers .. 4 6 4 8		
Pr. coarse woolled .. 0 5 6			
4 <i>s</i> 10 <i>d</i> calves, 1 <i>s</i> to 2 <i>s</i> . Quarter-old-store pigs, 20 <i>s</i> to 30 <i>s</i> each.			

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Feb. 16.

The supply of town-killed meat on sale at these markets is moderate, and the arrivals from Scotland continue on a tolerably extensive scale. Generally speaking, the trade rules inactive; nevertheless, compared with Monday last, prices are unaltered.

Per Siba by the carcass.

a. d. a. d.	a. d. a. d.
Inferior beef .. 2 8 to 3 0	Small pork .. 4 4 to 4 8
Middling ditto .. 3 2 3 6	Inf. mutton .. 3 4 3 8
Prime large do .. 3 8 3 10	Middling ditto .. 3 10 4 2
Do. small do .. 4 0 4 2	Prime ditto .. 4 4 4 6
Large pork .. 3 10 4 2	Veal .. 4 2 5 0

PRODUCE MARKET, TUESDAY, Feb. 17.

TEA.—There has been but a limited amount of business transacted in this market to-day for all descriptions, operations having been deferred until the public sales, which commence to-day.

SUGAR.—A fair amount of business has been done in good grades, descriptions, and full price, are maintained. For refined descriptions a slight advance on previous quotations has taken place.

COFFEE.—An average amount of business has been trans-

acted in this market for Plantation Ceylon, and there is no variation to be noticed in prices.

RICE.—For the better qualities of East India there has been a fair demand, and prices are generally well maintained.

SALT-PETRE.—The amount of business recorded in this market has been to a limited extent, and prices have remained without material alteration.

PROVISIONS.—Monday, Feb. 16.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 1,444 firkins butter, and 2,309 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 11,725 casks butter, and 66 boxes and 1,802 boxes of bacon. The Irish butter market ruled very quiet during the week, and the business transacted was almost confined to the very best descriptions, without change in price. In foreign no alteration to notice. The bacon market ruled very flat, and the sales effected were, to a very moderate extent, to buyers in want. Holders, however, do not press sales.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Feb. 16.—Large supplies of home-grown potatoes have been on sale at these markets since our last report, and from foreign ports a moderate quantity has been received. The trade, generally speaking, is dull, and in some instances, rather lower prices have been accepted. Last week's import amounted to 112 bags from Rotterdam, 100 tons from Dunkirk, 109 tons from Caen, and 120 tons from Rouen. Yorkshire Regents 100*s* to 130*s*, Yorkshire Flukes 130*s* to 150*s*, Yorkshire Rocks 90*s* to 100*s*, Kent and Essex Regents 120*s* to 140*s*, Scotch Regents 100*s* to 130*s*, Scotch Rocks 80*s* to 90*s*, Dunbar Regents 100*s* to 150*s*, Foreign 55*s* to 70*s* per ton.

WOOL.—Monday, Feb. 16.—Since our last report the amount of business doing, both for home use and export purposes, has been very moderate; and, in some instances the quotations have shown a tendency to give way. The supply on offer is seasonally extensive.

SEEDS.—Monday, Feb. 16.—With a continuance of fine weather the demand for agricultural seeds is improving. Fine qualities of red seeds meet a sale at full prices; secondary qualities now meet more inquiry, and maintain their values. White seed finds more inquiry, without further reduction in value. Fine trefoils are scarce, and noted dearer. Spring tares meet a fair demand, at steady values.

OIL.—Monday, Feb. 16.—Linseed oil moves off slowly, at 4*s* 6*d* per cwt on the spot. Rape is less active, and the best foreign refined may be had at 4*s* to 4*s* 6*d* per cwt. Cocoa-nut, palm, and fish oils are steady, but olive oils are a dull inquiry, and Gallipoli is quoted at 50*s* 10*s* to 60*s* per ton. French spirits of turpentine are in fair demand, at 95*s* per cwt.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—Saturday, Feb. 14.—The flax market continues very firm, at fully previous rates. Hemp is in steady request, and clean Russian is worth 38*s* to 39*s* per ton. Jute, however, continues dull, and a further decline of

LONDON CONGREGATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE.

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Mr. T. C. TURBERVILLE.
 Mr. T. T. CURWEN,
 Mr. THOMAS SCRUTON, Jun.,

The object of this Committee is to stimulate the Congregational Churches to systematic effort and weekly collections on behalf of the distressed Lancashire Operatives, and especially for the suffering members of Congregational Churches. They do not undertake to distribute any funds; they simply forward such money as may be entrusted to their care to the destination indicated by the donors.

All communications and remittances to be addressed to Samuel Morley, Esq., Chairman of the London Congregational Relief Committee, 18, Wood-street, London, E.C. Post-office Orders to be made payable at St. Martin's-le-Grand.

The following amounts have been forwarded by the London Congregational Committee to the Congregational Committee at Manchester:—

	£	s	d
Vineyard Chapel, Richmond, per Rev. Z. B. French, monthly collection	5	0	0
Beeches, Suffolk, per Rev. John Flower, Boxes in Chapel and Sunday-school	11	4	1
Holloway Congregational Church, Camden-road, per Rev. M. Wilks, fifth remittance	20	0	0
Baker-street Chapel, Enfield, per Rev. J. S. Smith and Friends' sacramental collection	8	14	5
Anerley Congregational Church	4	17	4
Ditto Sunday-school, per Rev. W. H. Smith	0	15	8
Eitham, Kent, per Rev. Thos. Keilherley, weekly contributions	15	9	5
Zion New Chapel, London, collected by Miss Cooper	1	1	0
Additional donations, per Rev. J. Thomas	0	12	0
Southgate-road Sunday-school New Year's Gift, by Mr. Hawkins	1	0	0
Congregational Church, Bromley, Kent, per Rev. E. Bolton, sacramental collection and surplus of weekly offerings	11	9	0
Collected by Master Mowat	0	8	7
Charlton, Devon, per Rev. Moses Briggs	4	10	6
Tabernacle, Greenwich-road, per Rev. W. R. Noble, monthly contribution	4	11	6
Devedin, Somerset, per Rev. J. Averill, boxes in chapel, second remittance	5	0	0
Holloway Congregational Church, Camden-road, per Rev. M. Wilks, sixth remittance	26	0	0
Congregational Chapel, Mere, Wilts, per Rev. R. P. Erlebach, second remittance	13	4	0
Maisi-hill Church, Greenwich, per Rev. G. C. Bellows, monthly collections	0	6	0
Park Chapel, Hornsey, per Rev. John Corbin	7	1	6
Congregational Church, Totteridge, Herts, per Rev. W. E. Brown, M.A.	6	5	0
Independent Chapel, Hitchin, per Rev. W. Griffiths	1	0	0
Lion-walk Sunday-school, Colchester	2	14	6
Mariners' Chapel, Rowhedge, near Colchester, per W. J. Battamy	0	10	0
Trinity Chapel, Poplar, per Rev. G. Smith, weekly offerings	25	8	2
Upper Clapton Chapel, per Rev. H. J. Gamble, weekly contributions	18	1	6
Lion-walk Congregational Church, Colchester, third remittance	0	5	6
Greenstead Sunday-school, Colchester, per Rev. T. W. Davids	0	4	6
Congregational Church, Wareham, Dorset, per C. Selby, two weeks' collection	3	15	0
Independent Churches, Horob and Bwicb, Ygross, Cardiganshire, per Rev. Thomas Phillips	1	5	0
East Grinstead, Sussex, per Rev. B. Slight	5	5	0
Stepney Meeting, per Rev. John Kennedy, M.A., moiety of collection for February	3	8	6
Poor Mothers' Meeting, per ditto	15	11	8
Chinnor, Oxon, per Rev. E. Green	0	17	3
Capel Evan, Newcastle Emlyn, Carmarthenshire, per Rev. J. Williams	7	14	8
	2	1	0
	2248	17	0

THE BAPTIST UNION and the LANCA-SHIRE DISTRESS.

The following is the list of Contributions forwarded during the past fortnight to the Baptist Union Fund for the Relief of the Distress in Lancashire:—

Bideford, by Rev. G. Williams	3	5	0
Maes-y-bellian, by D. Edwards	1	11	0
Bwicbarnaman, by Rev. S. Pugh	1	12	6
St. Mary's Gate, Derby, by W. Wilkins	2	2	0
Barton Fabia, by Rev. E. Bott	3	5	0
Anonymous	0	1	0
Kislingbury, Rev. S. B. Stenson	5	15	6
Upottery, by Rev. J. Chapman (for ministers)	6	10	0
Cuckfield, by D. Pratt, Esq.	2	5	0
Lessness Heath, by Rev. E. Hewett	0	5	0
A Working Family	0	6	0
Helford Helston, by G. Phillips	0	6	0
Whittlesea (second church), by Rev. S. S. Allsop	2	4	0
Ripley, by Rev. G. Needham	2	0	0
Tarporley, by J. Dickenson	0	12	5
Bawley, Derbyshire, by W. Bennett	3	0	0
Bath (Somerset-street), by Rev. D. Wassell	3	10	6
Snaresbrook, Kent, by Rev. H. Wood	1	0	0
Queenshead, by Rev. R. Hardy	0	11	6
Cefnauw, by Rev. A. J. Parry	3	0	0
Bradford-on-Avon, by Rev. W. Newell	3	1	3
Editor of Christian World	10	0	0
Jamaica, Refuge and Kettering, by Rev. E. Fray	7	17	6
Thrapston Sunday-school	0	6	0
Oswestry, by Rev. E. Wilks (for ministers)	0	10	4
Praed-street Sunday-school, by Rev. J. Clifford	4	2	0
Cabmen's Club, Bell-street, and Cabmen at G. W. Railway	2	16	6
Blackwater, by Rev. S. Sale	2	3	0
New Bassford, Notts, by J. Edwards	1	0	6
Tarporley, by J. Dickenson	0	8	10

Contributions will be thankfully received at the Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street; and at Messrs. Barelay, Bevan, Tritton, and Co.'s, Lombard-street.

Post-office Orders should be made payable at the General Post-office, to the Rev. James H. Millard (Secretary), and Banker's Cheques to George Lowe, Esq. (Treasurer).

VENTILATING STOVES, for Churches Halls, &c.—Price from 50s. to 120s. Suspension Stoves for Greenhouses, Shops, Bedrooms, &c., from 1s. 6d.—BROWN and GREEN'S Patent are the simplest, cheapest, most efficient, economical, and durable. In operation at the Manufacturers' Warehouse, 81, Bishopsgate-street within. Illustrated Prospectus free.

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